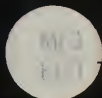


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GRANVILLE (A.B.)

Extracts from a work on
Counter-irritation + + + + +

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EXTRACTS FROM A WORK
ON
COUNTER-IRRITATION,

ITS
PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE,

ILLUSTRATED BY

One Hundred Cases

OF THE
MOST PAINFUL AND IMPORTANT DISEASES EFFECTUALLY
CURED BY EXTERNAL APPLICATIONS.

✓
BY

A. B. GRANVILLE, M. D., F. R. S.,

Author of "The Spas of Germany," "St. Petersburg," "The Royal Society in the
Nineteenth Century," "An Historical Treatise on Prussic Acid," "The
Catechism of Health," and other Medical works: Member of the
principal Literary and Scientific Societies of Europe.

WITH
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS,

BY

T. J. CROSSMAN, M. D.

PHILADELPHIA:
JESPER HARDING, PRINTER.

1839.



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The Antidynous and Counter-Irritating lotion, treated of in the following pages, and used by Dr. T. J. Crossman in his practice, is prepared by himself only, and may be had, with full directions for using it, at his office, N. E. Corner of Seventh and Chestnut Streets, entrance in Seventh Street. Office in the Second story. Philadelphia.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS,

BY T. J. CROSSMAN, M. D.

Dr. Granville, one of the most eminent and distinguished physicians of London, or perhaps in the world; and long a medical writer of the highest standing and unquestioned authority, published his celebrated work on counter-irritation, its principles and practice, illustrated by the report of one hundred cases of the most painful and important diseases effectually cured by external applications. This work contains the result of nine years' experience and meditation on the subject—with opportunities more numerous than scarcely any medical gentleman, being connected with some of the largest Hospitals in the Metropolis, and engaged in a private practice, the most extensive and profitable. This work he promised, as long ago as 1832, in another work published by him; but subsequently determined on waiting some years longer, ere he fulfilled his promise, in the hope of being able to accumulate a large body of incontrovertible evidence in favour of a mode of treating disease hitherto so much neglected.

In sending, therefore, the present volume to the press, he fulfils a species of tacit engagement made with the public many years since; while at the same time, he adduces the strongest possible testimony in support of an assertion he had often put forward, that, "It was possible, without the aid of *internal medicine*, and without having recourse to poisonous ingredients as counter-irritants, instantly to suspend, and in the majority of cases permanently to remove, by means of external remedies, every degree of pain, however acute, which shall depend on morbid affections of the nervous and muscular system, or of the circulation."

He has been able to accomplish this end in the most miraculous manner, by the discovery of an *antidynous lotion*, possessing highly counter-irritating qualities, fulfilling the indications of *derivation* and *revulsion*, and manifesting another power inscrutable in its character, and by its rapid success is incomparable. It stands alone. It has never been obtained before by the ordinary means of external medication; and its influence on the nervous system, admits of only two plausible solutions: that of a *shock* (dissimilar, however, in every respect to that of electricity or electro-magnetism,) and that of rapid absorption of the substance employed. It is not possible to explain what takes place under the almost magic influence of the application alluded to, in all cases of acute pain of the nerves, of spasms, of nervous headache, and of very intense toothache, unless we adopt one or the other of the preceding solutions. Yet who shall say that either of them is correct, or proved? I vouch for the facts, and offer only conjectures for their solutions. The facts themselves are amply proved in thousands of cases.

If any thing will remain, *in perpetuam rei memoriam*, as a *perpetual memorial* of the genius of its author, this invaluable discovery of Granville's, by its often instantaneous alleviation of the greatest degree of human misery, will be the most conspicuous, indestructible and imperishable in its character. The aphorisms of Hippocrates, and the unbiassed persevering industry of an immortal Jenner (the discoverer of vaccination,) may inspire the most laudable and exalted feelings of veneration,—the improvements of Ambrose Pare, Bichât, Larrey, a Hunter, Abernethy, and a Cooper, may be shown in after ages, as the offsprings of great mental endowments; but none can arouse the sympathies, and produce such unalloyed manifestations of gratitude, as that power, which shall often instantaneously banish the most excruciating torments that suffering humanity is subject to, and quickly disperse the foreboding horrors that may have lowered round the unfortunate victim, until all hope was lost and life had become a burden. Such a power is possessed in the medicated embrocation discovered by our author.

I procured his work a few weeks after it was published. In an attentive perusal, three things particularly attracted my attention. Its great practical value, its elegance of style, and the

author's happy descriptive talents, and fascinating comprehensive simplicity in details. Being engaged in the largest office practice of any physician in Philadelphia, and my professional services often solicited in the alleviation of that class of supposed incurable maladies, for which the antidyne was recommended, I was most anxious to avail myself of the powers of a remedy, the potency of which, had been so thoroughly proved in cures unparalleled in the annals of medicine or surgery. But what was my surprise when I learned that the articles necessary for its composition, were not to be found in any store in Philadelphia,—consequently I was put to much expense and trouble in preparing them myself. I am happy now to state that I succeeded perfectly in my operations, and procured an *antidynous vesicating* lotion never before used in *this country* by any physician, living or dead. I immediately commenced the use of it with zeal and industry, and soon learned that its author had not overrated its value, or misrepresented its almost magical power.

After using it in about a hundred cases, it occurred to me that the antidynous properties of the counter-irritating lotion might be improved—and following out the suggestions of my *therapeutick* and *pharmaceutical* experience, I soon obtained an *antidyne*, the superior efficacy of which, was at once recognised by such as had used the original, without any knowledge of their being different. I here wish it to be particularly understood, that the counter-irritating, revulsive, derivative and vesicating qualities, are the same as Dr. Granville's; but the antidynous powers of the antidyne I now employ, is highly improved.

I have now used it in about three hundred cases, with a success that is perfectly astonishing and unparalleled,—removing, often instantaneously and permanently, the most obstinate pain, acute and chronic, that had defied the best directed means, from the most skilful physicians, and that, too, by a mere application to the surface of the body, without its even producing rubefaction or any other phenomenon on the skin. Its *modus operandi* is perfectly unexplainable, but probably depends either on the absorption of the volatile particles of the ingredient used by the ordinary absorbent vessels, or the transmission of such volatile particles along the sheath of the nerves implicated in the disease, just as the electric fluid travels and is transmitted along

the surface of metallic tubes. In no instance, can any possible injury arise from the use of it. It contains no poisonous ingredients, and is perfectly harmless in its effects. It can be applied by any one who possesses ordinary sagacity, and passable adroitness in his manipulations. With such a remedy, what a quantity of deleterious and pernicious drugs may be prevented from being swallowed, and expense and lingering torments obviated.

Arguments or remarks, *ad captandum vulgus*, in no instance shall I make, with regard to the antidyne; my only object is, candidly to represent its great efficacy, in the immediate cure of a great number of painful maladies, that the intelligent may the more readily comprehend its value. Although its effect is the immediate removal of pain, wherever it may exist; it is not to be supposed for a moment, that in some cases it will not return. Wherever pain is kept up by the constant action of a particular cause, such as *organic* mischief, or *structural* lesion, this nor any other remedy will always cure. Here the antidyneous lotion relieves, suspends, and oftener than any other external application, removes pain altogether; but there are instances where it will return, but at longer intervals, to be again removed by the same application. But in that large class of painful diseases, spoken of in another part of this pamphlet, in which there may exist only *functional* derangement, for which the antidyne is prescribed; it is a perfect cure, and its weight in gold is no part of its value.

It may be supposed by some members of the faculty, that a publication of this kind, directed more particularly to the popular reader, is non-professional; and an innovation on some imaginary raised land-marks of the fraternity—and that it is violating a rule of prudence to make use of any means by which the public will become acquainted with the mysteries and secrets of the healing art. As a general rule, I confess, that it is proper and just that medical communications should be directed to the medical reader, only. No one can be more anxious to sustain the dignity of my profession than myself, for which I have the highest respect and veneration. But I hope I shall never be found so *clanish* in my habits, as to tolerate, in any instance, absurdities most foolish in their nature, and injurious to the public and suffering humanity. Some may vituperate and prejudice from

envy and malice ; but how different is the character of the learned, the skilful, and the honourable physician. He encourages industry, seeks after improvements, and is most happy when he can do the most good. His greatness consists in the exercise of virtue, and in the support of those principles which are calculated to adorn the human character. We never see him descending to those low arts, to those degrading employments, of which many who are conspicuous are not ashamed. We never see him submit to the will of an unbridled appetite, or become a willing slave to inordinate passions ! He diffuses around him a salutary influence—the good honor him, seek his company, and court his favour. Vice pays him respect, and envy hangs her head before him. He is honest in his dealings, steady in his attachment, and unwavering in faith. He is not ashamed to be found acting in the support of virtue, and spending his life in the untiring devotion to the welfare of his kind. He knows the luxury of doing good, and deems that the best employment here of life, and the most blessed in the sight of his maker, which is employed in charity.

I have made very copious extracts from Dr. Granville's work, and earnestly hope that every reader will carefully study them in order that he may better understand the value of the antidyneous and counter-irritating lotions, although he may have no use for them himself,—a popular knowledge of the diseases treated, is of importance to every one, and might be the means of rendering great service to a particular friend. The antidyne and counter-irritating lotion should be kept in every person's house, and its use thoroughly understood. It is impossible to state the incalculable benefit that might arise from it in cases of accidents and injuries—sudden attacks of Fainting, Epilepsy, Apoplexy, Spasms, Convulsions, Hysteria, Croup, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Gout, &c., and the long, tedious and expensive confinements to the sick room prevented by its early and highly beneficial use.

I shall now close this introductory by the brief report of a few cases, cured by the antidyne. The number could be increased to several hundreds ; but this would be tedious and useless, as the extracts from Dr. Granville's work would be read with more pleasure and interest.

CASE I.

I was requested, in October last, by Mr. Bailey, the very gentlemanly and extensive jeweller, of the firm of Bailey & Kitchen, in Chesnut Street, to attend on Mrs. R——, then on a visit at his house, from New York, who had laboured under the worst kind of Tic douloureux of the two *supra-orbitar* nerves, which ramify over the forehead, temples and scalp, for six years. She had had the advice of Drs. Mott, Stephans, Cox, Cheesman, Rogers and others, but without any alleviation. When I first saw her she was suffering the most acute pain. I immediately applied a folded cloth, about the size of my hand, saturated with the antidyne across the forehead, and firmly pressed it on with a strip of muslin, and requested her to tell when it burned her. She said it felt very hot, in the space of half a minute. *In less than a minute the pain was entirely gone!* I held the compress on for about three minutes. She has had no return of the pain since, now three months.

CASE II.

Mr. B——, a merchant in Market Street, had laboured under the worst attacks of Neuralgia of both legs, that I ever saw, for ten years. In one of his worst paroxysms, I applied compresses wet with the antidyne and counter-irritating lotion, to the ankles, knees, and lower part of the spine, and had them bound on until vesication was produced. The effect was an immediate relief from all pain, without any further return.

CASE III.

J. H——, a lad in Fifth Street, aged 12 years, after exposure, was suddenly attacked with acute idiopathic Phrenitis, characterised by the following formidable symptoms: violent inflammatory fever, redness of the eyes and face, intolerance of light and sound, great headache, with extreme restlessness, and above all, early and fierce delirium. Two skilful physicians had been in attendance, and had made use of the ordinary means, such as bleeding, cupping, leeching, blistering, purging, &c., with warm foot-baths, hip-baths, sinapisms and cold applications to his head, but without any suppression of the alarming symptoms. I was called in consultation on the eighth day, and immediately proposed the application of the antidynous counter-irritating lotion to the head, which was consented to. I applied a cloth folded several times to the forehead, saturated with the lotion, and pressed it on for five minutes. In that time it had reddened the skin much, and drawn small blisters. In a few minutes the distortions of his countenance were tranquil; the mind that was manifested with frantic madness but a few moments before, now

speedily became sane, and he conversed rationally. He stated that the pain was all gone from his head. It was afterwards applied over the whole head. A speedy cure followed.

CASE IV.

Miss L——, aged 22, had suffered with almost daily headaches from childhood; much had been done without benefit.—After repeated use of the antidyne, she has been perfectly relieved.

CASE V.

Mr. H—— was brought to my office, by a friend, three months since, to be treated for a paroxysm of headache just commencing. He had been subject to periodical attacks of the same kind for ten years, which lasted about three days, returning every three and four weeks. The pain was perfectly cured in less than one minute, by the application of the antidyne to the forehead and back part of the neck. He has had no return since.

CASE VI.

Mr. A——, a merchant, in Market Street, had been subject to a painful rheumatic affection of his feet and ankles for four years. The most skilful physicians in town had endeavoured to relieve his sufferings, but every thing failed. One application of the antidyne to his ankles until vesication was produced, cured him. He has had no pain since, which is now nearly four months.

CASE VII.

A gentleman, aged thirty-five, of a spare habit of body, subject to nervous feelings, and accustomed to sedentary occupations, has, for the last seven years, been seized with excruciating fits of pain, confined to the right half of the head, and returning by regular paroxysms at the end of about every third week. A short time before each attack comes, he suffers much from restlessness and irritability; his pulse becomes augmented in frequency, and he complains much of impairment of memory, and after it has ceased, he does not return to his usual state of health for two or three days. For this affection, he was directed, during the paroxysm, to make use of the antidyne, over the seat of the pain. One application was all that was requisite to remove its violence. This took place four months ago; no second return of the symptoms has taken place, and he is now in good health.

CASE VIII.

Mrs. L——, about thirty-two years of age, had, for the period

of six years, suffered from intense pain, confined to one spot in the loins, and which was not increased by motion. It came on in paroxysms, so frequent in occurrence and of such duration, that she never experienced a longer interval than two days betwixt them; and her sufferings were augmented to such a degree, during the period of pregnancy, that she was compelled to confine herself to bed for a great part of the time.

To bring about the removal of this affection, the patient had previously submitted to bleeding, generally and locally, and blisters, tartar emetic ointment, frictions with stimulating embrocations, along with plasters of various kinds had been made use of, but without in any degree alleviating the pain. She had also taken internally, almost every medicine calculated in any way to procure an abatement of the disease, but still no relief could be obtained. As a last resource, the antidyneous counter-irritating lotion was directed to be applied in the usual way, over the seat of the pain; and in a few minutes every vestige of the pain had disappeared. She has been since entirely free from it, and is now in the enjoyment of the best health.

CASE IX.

Mr. C——, a gentleman about thirty-five years of age, was seized three years ago with an attack of rheumatism which terminated in a chronic affection of the right shoulder, arm, and hand. He experienced great difficulty in making use of the muscles of the shoulder, from the pain which always attended upon any effort at motion; the elbow joint was stiff and painful, and he was obliged to carry the fore-arm in a sling. The articulations of the fingers were swollen, and also gave pain on motion, so that the patient could not use them in writing.

This patient had previously applied many remedies, without obtaining any benefit from them. He was now ordered to use the antidyne to the spine, shoulder, elbow, wrist and hand, which cured him in three weeks.

I regret that I have not room to publish several most interesting and supposed incurable cases of disease of the eyes, different from any that Dr. Granville has reported in his work, cured by a repeated application of the counter-irritant, around the orbits, and several anomalous affections of the skin; but I have now considerably exceeded my original limits.

Among the many testimonials I have received from different individuals, I shall publish but the following from my most esteemed and distinguished friend, Col. T. L. M^cKenney, late of the Indian Department at Washington, author of "Tour to the Lakes,"

“History of the Indian Tribes of North America,” “Biographical Sketches,” &c. No person living, possesses greater sympathy for suffering humanity than himself.

Philadelphia, January 14th, 1839.

TO DR. T. J. CROSSMAN,

Dear Sir:

I thank you for the loan of Dr. Granville's admirable work on *neuralgia* and its kindred diseases, as also for a bottle of the *antidynous counter-irritating lotion*. The book has enlightened me much, whilst the lotion, (having, thank Heaven, no use for it myself,) has been greatly beneficial in relieving about twenty sufferers, as well without, as within the circle of my immediate friends. In *every case* that had not assumed the chronic form, the relief was as entire, as it was almost instantaneous; and in those cases that were chronic, a most grateful alleviation was always experienced.

One case of much interest occurred about two weeks ago. It was that of a female, of about twenty-five years of age, a patient of a friend of mine. My friend is skilful, and successful; but this case had baffled his art. We were one day conversing upon Granville's work, when having with me a phial of the lotion, he proposed that I should accompany him, and try its effects upon this suffering and prostrate patient. I did so. In ten minutes, by my friend's watch, this almost distracted woman was *entirely relieved*! “I feel,” said she, “not a particle of pain—it is gone.” Her eyes, which she had not been able to turn in a lateral direction for a long time, were, at the same moment, free to obey the impulses of her will; when turning them to the left, she said—“I have not been able to do that for a long time.”

This was an extreme case of *neuralgia*, pronounced to be so by my friend. All the external muscles of the head being affected, but having its seats, mainly, in the accipital region—and to this region, the lotion was principally applied.

At the request of my friend, I accompanied him to see this woman, the following day at 11 o'clock—our previous visit having been at about three, the day previous. We found her yet free from pain, but complaining of great soreness over the entire head, including all those parts in which she had suffered so much pain.

Whatever of doubt might have existed in my mind, after reading Dr. Granville's work, as to the efficacy of the lotion, has been entirely banished by the many ocular proofs I have had

of the prompt relief afforded, by the application of this *nerve-searching, nerve-arranging, and nerve-adjusting* agent.

Very Respectfully, I am, Dear Sir,

Your Friend, &c.,

THOS. L. M'KENNEY.

I address this pamphlet in a special manner, to the general reader. It is intended by facts and experiments, to elucidate the effects of the operation of a most powerful remedy, in the cure of diseases. The language adopted is free from technicalities and scholastic definitions, which, I trust, will render the subject-matter familiar to the most ordinary understanding. In this way, the antidyne and counter-irritation, as a means of treating diseases without the aid of medicine, or as a powerful auxiliary to it, may stand a fair chance of being properly appreciated.

T. J. CROSSMAN, M. D.

Philad., N. E. Cor. of Seventh and Chesnut Streets.

February, 1839.

EXTRACTS FROM

DR. GRANVILLE'S WORK

ON

ANTIDYNOUS COUNTER-IRRITANTS.

SECTION VII.

OF THE OCCASIONS ON WHICH THE ANTIDYNOUS OR COUNTER-IRRITATING APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED; AND ENUMERATION OF THE DISEASES SUCCESSFULLY AND UNSUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY THEM.

Principal occasion: spasmodic and painful complaints—Instantaneous effect of the applications in such cases—Second occasion: muscular and tendinous affections of the body—Effect of the applications slower but not less beneficial—Third occasion: morbid affection of the circulation—Effect of the applications in them—Fourth occasion: anomalous diseases—Fifth occasion: disease of a mixed character—Sixth and last occasion: accidental and mechanical derangement, and some few diseases of the skin—Detailed list of the diseases treated by the counter-irritating or antidynous applications—Specification of those in which the same appeared to be inefficient.

71. The peculiar external applications mentioned in the preceding section, have been used on many and very different occasions, by myself, and under my direction, by other medical practitioners in the metropolis and in the country. The report of their success agrees with the result of my own larger experience respecting them, and our joint observations go to establish certain indisputable facts and principles, in regard to their applicability, which it will be proper to explain more distinctly.

72. The principal occasion on which I have had ample opportunities to try the effect and avail myself of the benefit of antidynous lotions has been when any of the spasmodic and pain-

ful complaints arranged under the class "nervous" presented itself to my notice. The nervous system, indeed, appears to be in a very special manner the most suitable field for the first and extraordinary impressions produced by the counter-irritants under consideration. Their effect is often instantaneous, and in most cases, permanently advantageous. Indeed it was in a case of the most inveterate as well as agonising character, of this class of disorders, that I first prescribed a suitable combination of volatile substances, with a view to produce successful counter-irritation, without any local disintegration of the part on which the substances were applied. That case will be found at the head of those I have recorded in the present volume.

73. The second occasion for using an antidynous lotion with effect, was in cases of disease affecting the muscles of the body, the tendinous tissues, and the membranous expansion connected with the muscular structure. The efficacy of the antidynous counter-irritant, in such diseases, is not so instantaneously developed as in those of the nervous system, nor can it be obtained (in the majority of instances at least) without going through the first and even the second stage of ordinary artificial counter-irritation,—namely, rubefaction and vesication. Nay, in this class of disorders when a considerable time has elapsed between their first appearance and the moment of treating them by counter-irritation, the third stage or phenomenon of that agency, on the part to which it is applied, namely, cauterisation, becomes necessary.

74. Certain diseases or morbid affections of the circulation, have afforded a third occasion for the employment of the new counter-irritants. Here also, not only the first impression or shock is required; but one or more of the subsequent phenomena of counter-irritation are indispensable to the production of salutary changes. In some instances, indeed, it is absolutely essential to the ultimate recovery of the patient, that the third phenomenon (cauterisation) should be developed, and not only developed but kept up for some time; an object, by the way, which can more readily be attained by an antidynous lotion than by any other known counter-irritant.

75. There are some anomalous or indefinable cases of disease, which after having resisted every well established mode of medical treatment, have at last been subjected, in despair as it were, to the action of antidynous applications. A fourth occasion, therefore, was thus presented, for a careful trial of those counter-irritants, which terminated in most instances successfully.

76. Finally, mixed cases of disease, partaking at one and the same time in their nature or character, of two, three or more of the classes of disorders already specified (72, 73, 74,) have offered a fifth occasion for resorting to the use of the same counter-irritants, with variable success; and a sixth occasion might be added, of certain accidental and mechanical derangements in parts of the

body, as well as of a few of the more ordinary complaints of the skin, in which the antidynous counter-irritants were used with advantage.

77. It is proper that we should now proceed to look to the specific diseases themselves that have been treated by counter-irritation in the manner so often alluded to in this section,—and that we should see what important malady, whether or not tending seriously by its nature to affect life, has been effectually cured by antidynous applications, with little or no assistance from any other species of medical treatment. The list of such diseases, as far as they have fallen under my notice in the course of nine years, may, for the sake of order and distinctness, be arranged as follows:—

A.—PRINCIPALLY AFFECTING THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

1. Acute Neuralgia, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Periodical,} \\ \text{Permanent,} \end{array} \right\} \text{ } \textit{Tic douloureux}.$
2. Spasms, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{including} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Epilepsy.} \\ \text{St. Vitus's Dance.} \\ \text{Hysterics.} \end{array} \right.$
3. Convulsions, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{including} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Epilepsy.} \\ \text{St. Vitus's Dance.} \\ \text{Hysterics.} \end{array} \right.$
4. Cramp.
5. Brow-ague.
6. Tetanus or lock jaw.
7. Highly acute toothache.
8. Nervous headaches.

B.—PRINCIPALLY AFFECTING THE MUSCLES AND TENDINOUS TISSUES.

9. Rheumatism.
10. Lumbago.
11. Swelled and highly painful articulations.

C.—PRINCIPALLY AFFECTING THE CIRCULATION.

12. Headache from fulness of blood in the head.
13. Congestions and sudden attacks of blood in the head.
14. Sore throat.
15. Early inflammation, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a. \text{ of the trachea and bronchia.} \\ b. \text{ of the lungs and their membranes.} \\ c. \text{ of the heart and pericardium.} \end{array} \right\} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Tending} \\ \text{to} \\ \text{consump-} \\ \text{tion.} \end{array} \right\}$

D.—DISEASES OF A MIXED CHARACTER.

16. Suppressed gout. $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a. \text{ affecting the heart.} \\ b. \text{ affecting the stomach.} \end{array} \right.$
17. Genuine gout.
18. Paralytic debility.

E.—ACCIDENTAL, MECHANICAL, AND CUTANEOUS DERANGEMENTS.

19. Violent sprains.
20. Pimples.
21. Biles.
22. The ringworm.

78. From this list it appears, that in twenty-two distinct complaints, many of them of a serious nature, counter-irritating preparations have been employed. In the sequel we shall see with what success they were so employed; and the detailed histories of the cases hereafter given, will clearly show the great value of those preparations. I do not assert that all the various disorders just enumerated (74,) and their modifications, have yielded to the agency of the preparations in question; nor that the latter agency was the only means resorted to in all cases for the cure of those disorders. On the contrary, a few of them have, on particular occasions, resisted that agency; others have been only momentarily benefitted by it; while a few more have required a simultaneous employment of ordinary and internal remedies, to assist in and complete the cure. Among these several exceptions to the general rule of success are to be reckoned, chronic *tic douloureux*—chronic rheumatism of long standing—epilepsy dependent on organic mischief in the brain or any part of the spinal apparatus—lastly, rheumatic gout, in individuals whose constitution has been completely shaken by that disorder, or any other previous disease; although even in this case, some good has been obtained from using the antidynous counter-irritants. The second and fourth of the obstinate disorders just mentioned are of that number which require, in addition to the antidynous application, an appropriate internal treatment. The other two are only partially relieved, but never cured, by counter-irritating lotions.

SECTION VIII.

OF THE PARTICULAR ADVANTAGES WHICH APPERTAIN TO THE TREATMENT OR PREVENTION OF DISEASE BY COUNTER-IRRITANTS, AND ESPECIALLY BY ANTIDYNOUS APPLICATIONS, WHICH ARE NOT FOUND IN THE ORDINARY METHODS OF CURE.

Advantages of natural and artificial counter-irritation—Example in illustration of the former—Death produced by the suspension of its action—A second example of a natural counter-irritant maintaining the equilibrium of health—A third and still more striking example of the same—A fourth example—Infantine diseases—Royal Infirmary for sick children—Result of experience there in reference to counter-irritation—Recapitulation of the examples and commentary—Advantages peculiar to the strongest of the antidynous counter-irritants—First advantage: its efficacy soon tested—"Time and perseverance" not necessary—A patient saved from immediate death by it, in a case of gout transferred to the heart—This effect contrasted with the slow operation of certain modern remedies—Second advantage: the patient is not long kept in suspense as to the good result of his case—Long attendance of the physician unnecessary. Third advantage: the certainty that the constitution of the patient can never be damaged by the treatment—Difference in that respect between the system of counter-irritation and the Homœopathic treatment.

79. The credit of many of the advantages obtained through the agency of antidynous or counter-irritants in the treatment of certain important diseases is shared by those preparations in common with many other counter-irritants, but the peculiar agency of the antidynous lotions affords besides to the person using them, other results of a satisfactory kind, which are in vain sought for in counter-irritants in general.

80. No one can doubt for a moment of the benefit derived from counter-irritants, whether they be result of natural efforts, or established artificially and permanently, as in the case of a seton and an issue, or applied transitorily, like a flying blister, a mustard poultice, &c., in either maintaining the equilibrium of health or in restoring it when broken. An elderly lady had an open sore in one of her legs, which had continued for many years. She was otherwise in the enjoyment of perfect health; but the sore was an inconvenience, and in an evil hour she submitted to a succession of dressings, which stopped the discharge from it, and ultimately healed the ulcer. In three months from that time she died in great tortures, arising apparently from some serious affections in the abdomen. The family wished to ascertain, if possible, the cause and seat of the disorder, when it was found that almost all the principal clusters of the glands of the mesentery were either in a state of suppuration or incipient inflammation. I have no

doubt that in this case the old sore was a natural external counter-irritant, which kept in check the internal mischief, by what is called derivation. The fatal effect of obliterating or interfering with such counter-irritants as are vouchsafed to us by nature, was moreover illustrated by the example of Louis XVIII. of France, whose death followed close upon cicatrisation of most of the old sores in his legs. These examples prove the advantage of a natural counter-irritant.

81. A young lady, the niece of one of the most eminent judges this country could boast of twenty years ago, had an habitual purulent discharge behind the ears, which a surgeon of known popularity in the vicinity of London cured, by the application of an ointment containing corrosive sublimate. A few weeks subsequent to the cure, while travelling on the continent with her relatives, and under my medical charge, after a moderate dancing at a ball, the young lady was taken suddenly ill with an affection of the heart, and died in forty-eight hours. The authorities of the place having insisted on an investigation of the case, an examination was made by Dr. Dorat and myself, when it was discovered that the right ventricle of the heart contained an earthy calculus, resembling in external appearance what has been called a mulberry calculus of the urinary organs. The specimen is still in my possession.—A gentleman has been twice under my care who, during the autumn and spring, is subject to large biles. He is wretchedly low and miserable while the painful stage of the disorder lasts. As suppuration becomes fully established, his spirits and health improve, and at the end of six weeks after going through a crop or two of those furunculi and troublesome eruptions in almost every part of the body (although seldom in two different parts at the same time,) he becomes quite a new man, in feeling as well as appearance. On one occasion it became particularly inconvenient to allow nature to follow the usual course during a threatened attack of the biles, and on the first blush of redness, after the application of several leeches to the part, preparations of lead were put on by the patient, and constantly kept on it, with a view to stop all further progress in the furuncular process. In this the patient succeeded: but in return, a state of health followed, which created alarm not only for the safety of the patient's life, but of his intellect also; for the degree of depression and hypochondriasis which ensued and continued for many weeks, was such as to lead one to expect the worst consequences. Here, again, the advantage of an occasional natural counter-irritant is manifest.

82. Another gentleman who, from the age of five-and-twenty, had carried about with him a most obstinate case of psoriasis in the palm and back of his right hand, which, at times, would extend up the wrist and arm. continued to be in perfect health, so

long as that eruption was not tampered with. Every attempt, however, was made by various medical men in this and foreign countries, to cure and eradicate so troublesome a disorder; but years elapsed before any permanent impression could be made on it. When consulted by this individual, who at times placed entire confidence in me (except when I assured him that the disease stood in lieu of some internal malady, and ought not to be interfered with lightly,) I gave it as my opinion that all attempts to check the eruption suddenly ought to be abstained from, and might be fatal. The advice was disregarded. I saw, many years afterwards, the individual in question, with his hand as smooth as if it had never suffered from the former complaint. The result had been brought about by the use of a particular pomatum, which had been recommended empirically, but of the nature of which he was ignorant. He was then labouring under every symptom of unmitigated dyspepsia, accompanied by a dull, heavy, incessant pain in the right side. He died almost unexpectedly a twelve-month after, aged forty-four years, and on examination, a large tumor, containing purulent matter, was found placed between the liver and duodenum, and connected with both. I hold this to be a third capital illustration of the advantage of a natural counter-irritant, which it is always dangerous to interfere with. Of the evil effect on the general health, and hastily drying up the morbid exudations of this same complaint, I have had within the last few weeks another marked example, in the person of an eminent surgeon-dentist in this town. The ebbing and flowing of his health, as connected with the appearance or disappearance of a cutaneous disorder on his hands, was fully admitted by him, when I called his attention more distinctly to the phenomena of his case.

83. Another example, illustrative of the same doctrine, I derive from my own experience, in the treatment of diseases of children. During a period of ten years that I attended as principal medical officer at the Royal Metropolitan Infirmary for Sick Children, of which I had the honour of being the founder in 1820, and which has recently assumed the title of Royal Hospital, I have treated upwards of ten thousand young patients, many of them mere infants. In the course of that practice I observe that whenever a child, having a natural discharge and ulceration behind the ears, or the milky tetter on the forehead and face, or the peculiar impetiginous eruption at the bend of the arms and knees, which is not uncommon between the age of six and eleven years—was placed under surgical care, for any of those local affections (although in other respects apparently in good health), and the discharge was suddenly checked,—either inflammation of the membranes of the brain, or hydrocephalus followed, which it became no easy task to remedy. On the other hand, children affected with either of the two latter very serious complaints, were

often brought under my notice, who suddenly got well on the spontaneous appearance of the before mentioned eruptions, or upon the back of the ears becoming suddenly and extensively sore. These examples are not brought forward as offering any thing new: for there is scarcely an observant person, be he medical or not, who in all probability has not seen many such; but they are quoted with the view of introducing with greater aptitude the consideration of the advantages of using counter-irritants artificially. For, since nature points out to us, in a variety of ways, the benefit to be derived from the existence of spontaneous counter-irritants, it follows, that whenever these have been injudiciously interfered with, or checked,—the establishment of artificial counter-irritation in lieu of them must lead to the happiest results; results hardly to be expected from the slow course of an ordinary treatment.

84. Accordingly it may justly be assumed, that in all the cases already mentioned (80, 81, 82, 83), had artificial counter-irritation been resorted to immediately upon observing the sudden deterioration of the health of the patient consequent on the suppression of the natural counter-irritant, the untoward results which have been mentioned would probably have been prevented, or, at all events, considerably retarded. This is what was actually effected in the case of a gentleman subject to biles (81), and in most of the cases of children affected with complaints of the head, in consequence of the forced suppression of a retro-auricular, or impetiginous discharge (83). In all those instances, the application of instantaneous counter-irritants produced the desired diversion against the common enemy, viz. the original and constitutional disorder, to keep which at bay a natural or an artificial counter-irritant had become necessary.

85. The exhibition of internal medicines in cases such as I have described, would be of little avail. They are too slow in their operation, and more than problematic as to the result. In this respect, the superiority of the external over the internal treatment is quite manifest. That superiority is even more evident in regard to the antidynous applications, the peculiar agency of which on the human body, and their more rapid effects, will be admitted to be some of their best recommendations, when the cases described in the following pages shall have been attentively perused. Those recommendations, indeed, are of such value, that we may consider the external treatment of certain diseases by the antidynous preparations in question, to be, in more than one point of view, far preferable to any other treatment, whether it consists in the external application of ordinary counter-irritants, or in the internal exhibition of medicine.

86. Looking at the question merely as it concerns the patient, both with regard to his health and with regard to his interest, the

plan which I propose, and which I have had so many opportunities of carrying into effect in the course of the last nine years (as will be seen fully illustrated by the medical histories that follow) offers one great advantage in a majority of cases, which no other method affords; and it is thus that its efficacy is soon tested. Accordingly it will be found that in the larger number of the diseases for which I have recommended the counter-irritating treatment by means of antidynous lotions, their value as a curative agent has been proved or disproved almost at once; unlike, in that respect, to some of the recently-published methods of treatment which have for one of their essential conditions to require "time, and perseverance" for the cure. On that condition, indeed, the physician generally insists, in order to prevent disappointment, before he can promise a recovery by the ordinary medical treatments.

87. But in respect to the treatment which I recommend, the contrary is the case. By that treatment it is proposed to combat any of the maladies specified in the last section, through the agency of particular external applications which are to produce an *immediate* sensible effect, and that of a salutary, relieving, and generally curative character. The patient, therefore, can judge of the value of what is done for him as well as his medical attendant. Take we for example a case of suddenly retrocedent gout, in which the most formidable symptoms have arisen, connected with a disturbed and almost suspended action of the heart, and in which, an antidynous lotion being laid at once over the pale and flaccid seat of the departed gout, the former redness, swelling, throbbing, and painful condition of the part are as suddenly recalled, whereby the heart becomes quickly relieved, and the patient is snatched from death. Who can deny that in such a case as this the treatment has afforded to the patient the singular advantage for which I contended, in behalf of the particular counter-irritant employed? Would the rubbing in of the veratrine or delphinia ointment over the part have produced so instantaneous a release from so formidable an attack? Yet such an instance, nay more than one, as the result of the application of antidynous lotions, will be found among the cases to be hereafter detailed.

88. Another great advantage of this method of cure, consists in the speedy manner in which the likelihood of its proving successful is demonstrated to the patient; so that he is never kept long in suspense as to the result, nor is the physician called upon for a long attendance on the patient whom he subjects to this mode of treatment. With the exception of cases of chronic rheumatism, tracheaïtis bronchitis, or incipient consumption, or inflammation of a long duration, either local or general,—in all of which I have had to continue my attendance on the patient for a proportionate length of time,—all the rest of the complaints which came under

my notice, and which I considered as susceptible of being treated by counter-irritation (and I may assert with perfect truth, that few medical men of the present day have had more extended experience than I have had within the last nine years on that subject)—all those complaints, I say, were relieved immediately, and most of them cured, by one, two, or three applications only of a counter-irritating lotion, the majority of them permanently, and the rest for a longer or shorter period of time. The very first case which will be found at the head of the list, is a striking illustration of the power of the application in question, in at once suspending, under the most trying and unfavourable circumstances, for a period of forty-two days, paroxysms of acute pain, which for *twenty-two* years before, had never failed to attack the devoted sufferer at some period or other of each succeeding day of his life. Now the contrast between such a mode of dealing with any important disorder by means of the counter-irritants like those I propose, and that pursued by other practitioners who have likewise from time to time recommended particular agents in order to produce a species of counter-irritation, is very striking. In the method I bring forward, there is no rubbing, day after day, to effect a certain purpose—as is the case with the veratria and other ointments: but the purpose required is obtained presently, and simply, by once laying the counter-irritating agent on the part selected for that object.

89. A third, and no mean advantage of the same method of cure, is the certainty that, should we be disappointed in our expectation of obtaining by it an instantaneous recovery, or one within a reasonable period of time, we at least incur no risk of damaging the constitution of the patient, as is unfortunately too often the case with regard to the ordinary poly-pharmacous treatment of diseases of the present day, even when judiciously and properly directed by the most skilful physicians. This is still more manifestly the case when the disorder to be removed is of a chronic kind, and requires a protracted use of remedial agents, internal or external, according to the species of treatment preferred for that purpose. No one can doubt, for example, that in the case of an obstinate affection of the liver, in which for a series of weeks the lengthened use of “the blue pill” has been deemed necessary for its ultimate and successful removal,—a certain degree of constitutional derangement is often found to remain behind, for the cure of which some subsequent treatment is required. Now the contrary is the case where disease requires even a *protracted* application of the antidynous counter-irritants; for there is no example in which such an application has been followed by any derangement. I might, indeed, contrast the latter mode of treatment with that system of predicated infinitesimal doses of powerful medicines, which must be a thousand times repeated

before they can cure any complaint. Yet many of those complaints the counter-irritants have either cured at once or within a short period of time, without any indirect ill effect on the constitutional power of the patient; whereas it is notorious, as regards the system alluded to, that many patients who had lost the complaint for which they had had recourse to homœopathism, found themselves with a more deteriorated constitution at the end of their protracted treatment. We may, therefore, in recapitulating what has been stated in the preceding paragraphs (85, 86, 87, 88, 89) frankly assert that the external treatment of the diseases specified in this volume by the class of counter-irritants I propose, is, in more respects than one, to be greatly preferred by the patient to any other.

NARRATIVE OF SUCH CASES OF DISEASE

AS HAVE BEEN TREATED, EITHER WHOLLY OR IN PART, BY MEANS
OF ANTIDYNOUS OR COUNTER-IRRITATING LOTIONS;

WITH

THE EFFECTS THAT HAVE RESULTED THEREFROM.

Before I advance a single step in the career of historian or narrator of various highly interesting and attractive cases in medical practice, it is fitting that I should premise one or two general observations, respecting the ground of my choice of those which I have recorded in this part of my present publication. It cannot for a moment be supposed that I would claim my reader's attention to the entire collection of the cases which have fallen under my notice in the course of the last nine years (since I first adopted the artificial counter-irritating plan of treating certain classes of disease,) and which were treated by me in accordance with that plan. Few of my readers would thank me for such a task; for if the evidence of one or two striking examples of the good effect of the plan in question be brought forward in support of it, and are found amply sufficient for that purpose,—to multiply them, by copying the entire register-book of my practice in this one point, would not only be superfluous, but inconvenient.

A selection of cases, therefore, was deemed necessary; and to that I proceeded under the following impressions:—First, that all such cases ought to be preferred, in which, either through the preliminary statement of the patient, or by a subsequent acknow-

ledgment from himself or his friends, the nature of the disease, as well as the effect of the treatment employed, could be clearly defined. Secondly, that such of the cases to be related should be chosen, as from the peculiarity of their nature, and of the manner of their recovery, would prove the superiority of the individual counter-irritating agents employed and recommended by me, over the ordinary counter-irritants. Thirdly, and lastly, that whenever a case of disease had occurred, which; having been deemed susceptible of cure by counter-irritating lotions, had been treated accordingly, and yet had resisted that powerful remedy, as it had formerly resisted every ordinary treatment,—such a case should be equally chosen for my narrative, in order to show what might and what might not be expected from the remedies recommended.

This then is what I have done; and I trust that the public will appreciate the motives which led me to the adoption of a system of selection intended to inspire confidence in the reader, while it may prevent the maliciously-inclined from casting the sneer of incredulity on the following statements of facts.

Nor is the last remark out of place on the present occasion; since the results obtained in many of the cases about to be related, have been so unusually striking, that without wishing to tax either the general reader, or the members of my profession, with a proneness to hold cheap medical histories in general, or to suspect their authenticity,—it may be supposed that they would hesitate to believe what is not of an every day occurrence, unless it were brought forward in the manner I have adopted. To strengthen the line of evidence still further, I shall consider myself at liberty, whenever the usual laws of courtesy and etiquette will allow it, to allude more particularly either to the name of the patient (where permission to that effect has been obtained), or to some circumstantial detail connected with the subject of the case. But neither in this, nor in the selection of such of the details of each case as I deem to be important, shall I depart from the ordinary course of proceeding adopted by medical writers of respectability, in preserving inviolate the confidence reposed in them by their patients.

SECTION I.

CASES IN WHICH THE NERVOUS SYSTEM WAS PRINCIPALLY AFFECTED.

I. ACUTE NEURALGIA. { Periodical } Tic douloureux.
 { Permanent }

Neuralgia is a comparatively modern name, applied to diseases which affect especially the nerves of the body, and are accom-

panied with pain. I have superadded the word *acute* to it, in order to particularise, in a more emphatic manner, all such disorders of the class in question as are more intensely painful than the rest: for it is impossible to deny the difference in respect to pain, which exists (for example) between a nervous headache, and the *tic douloureux* of the nerve situate in the forehead, immediately over the eye. This term of "*tic douloureux*," which has unfortunately become more familiar to English ears within the last quarter of a century than it had ever been before, is, in reality, no other than an expression common to the French language, and which has since become general in all languages, the meaning of which is the same as that of the more classical name of "*neuralgia*."

My present object is, not to enter into a professional disquisition on this or any other of the classes of disease embraced by the present and the following sections; but simply to impart as much preliminary information to my general readers, as will enable them to appreciate the importance of the cases about to be submitted to their consideration. I shall therefore only add that, adopting, for simplicity's sake, the word *tic douloureux* to denote all intensely painful affections of one or more nerves of any part of the body (although the expression was originally much more limited),—provided such affections be not accompanied by well-marked fever, or such general derangement as constitutes febrile disorders,—I distinguish among them two well-marked subdivisions. To the first belong all those cases in which the attacks of *tic douloureux* are periodical, whether the returns be at regular or irregular intervals. These, generally speaking, are the most severe cases of the disease. To the second appertain those cases of *tic douloureux* in which the disease, or painful affection, has no well-defined or appreciable interval; and these are the milder forms of the disorder. In both classes of cases, however, it is to be borne in mind, that if the origin of the disorder lie either in a local injury done to the affected nerve, or to some of its branches; or in some organic derangement, such as increase of bone, the growth of a hard tumour, the swelling of an artery or aneurism, and other similar inward causes producing pressure on any part of the nervous system;—then there is no perfect cure to be expected from the application of the antidy-nous lotion, or from any other counter-irritant; or indeed from any external remedy whatever; but only a relief from pain, and that not in any considerable degree.

CASE I.

Periodical and Erratic *Tic douloureux*.

At the head of the cases intended to illustrate the diseases of the present section, must stand that of a patient who will be re-

collected by many of the leading members of the medical profession in London, as having applied to them all in succession for relief, without obtaining it, and as having at last died in a state of the most intense atrophy, the result of protracted dyspepsia, arising from organic mischief. I was the last medical man he consulted, with the exception of Sir H. Halford, who, at my suggestion, was called in consultation, on the propriety of allowing the patient to continue the free and increasing use of Battley's Sedative Drops. On that occasion that distinguished physician suggested the addition of very minute doses of tartarised antimony to the opiate; a combination which had the happy effect of somewhat tranquillising the bodily pains of the patient, by means of weaker doses of the sedative. At that time, however, no attempt of a direct kind had been made to stay the attacks of pain, the peculiar nature of which was so striking, that Sir Henry, at the consultation alluded to, was pleased to prolong his visit beyond the usual period, for the purpose of watching with myself the curious and anomalous workings of the malady.

It was some time after that consultation, when every thing seemed to fail us, that, being accidentally present during one of the most agonising attacks of nerves I had ever witnessed,—attacks of which I had not formed any thing like a correct conception before, notwithstanding the clear and precise manner in which the patient had endeavoured to describe them to me,—the thought struck me that the setting up of an instantaneous source of counter-irritation on the very part which seemed to be the seat of the attack, might, perchance, afford relief. The complaint consisted evidently in a highly painful neuralgic affection of a periodical character; but whether connected or not with the general malady of the stomach and mesentery, which had prevailed for several years simultaneously, no one could tell. The periodicity of the attack was to a degree capricious, and so was the selection of the part on which the disease seemed to vent its rage. Still as all the parts were accessible to the application of an energetic counter-irritant, I proposed and employed one which completely answered our expectation.

Such a case, therefore, forms very properly the first link of the chain of evidence I am about to lay before the public, in support of what I have announced in the title-page, and afterwards developed in the First Part of my present volume. Such, in fact, is the beginning of that extended range of experience in the use of external medicated applications, which I have had now for a period of nine years; and as such, therefore, I place it at the head of my medical narrative.

To add to the interest of the case, I shall introduce it in the words of the patient himself, contained in a letter addressed to me, with a statement of his sufferings, and in a second letter

written about four weeks after the success of the first external application, and directed to a very intimate friend of his—a partner in one of the principal banking-houses at the west end of the town. It is proper also to state in this place, that the patient, thankful for the unexpected benefit he had derived from the treatment, had meditated publishing his case in the daily papers, and was only restrained from so doing, by my requesting him to suppress the letter he had prepared on the subject for the editor of one of the leading journals.

“ *Euston-square, January 30, 1830.*

“ My dear Sir,—With all my desire to meet your wish that I should endeavour to put down in writing the peculiar features and character of my case and suffering, as they existed before I (happily I must say) was induced, at the recommendation of our worthy friend Mr. D——, to consult you,—I experience great difficulty in doing it. I cannot, therefore, better relieve myself of the duty than by enclosing you an extract of the statement submitted to the professional gentleman whose advice I last requested, in the faint hope of benefit; which proving as abortive as all my former applications, had determined me never again to increase my anxieties by any further resort to the faculty. The very great relief, however, which I have already experienced from your treatment, affords me at least the gratifying expectation that I may pass my future days with, if not an entire removal, at least a very considerable release, from the consequence of my apparent constitutional tendency to the affliction I have so imperfectly described.

“ You will remember the day you accidentally saw me during the paroxysm of one of my severest visitations, when you acknowledged, that although I had at different times expressed to you how extremely I was often affected, you had until that moment formed an imperfect idea of the extent of my sufferings. Since that period (15th December, 1829) I have diaried the daily result of your attention to my situation, as it was the first time during the greatest proportion of my life passed in the endurance of hourly sufferings, that I have met with such relief as I have now obtained from the means you almost instantaneously suggested. I recall this to your remembrance, because since I saw you, having been asked by a friend, who knows all my former disappointments, on what ground I form my present strong expectation, I have had occasion to refer to my register; from which I collect, that in the forty-four days that have elapsed since the 18th of last month, notwithstanding the unusual severity of the weather (even in this country,) and the great vicissitude in the barometer and thermometer, I have passed *seventeen* days *without any pain whatever*, twenty-six with very mitigated and partial affec-

tion, and only one night with any recurrence of the acute distress I was wont to know so constantly. During the whole of this period I have uniformly been able to lessen almost immediately, and shortly after to subdue the pain so much, that I have at times absolutely doubted the reality of my experience.

"I am, &c., very faithfully yours,

"ALEXANDER RILEY.

"*Dr. Granville.*"

The extract referred to in the preceding letter is taken from a full statement of Mr. Riley's case, which that gentleman had submitted to Dr. Armstrong a few months before the death of that eminent physician, and sometime before I was consulted, and is as follows. The words marked by italics are so found in the MS., and the same remark applies to those so marked in the preceding letter.

EXTRACT.

"My peculiar case appears to be one of almost exclusive distress, arising from such constant recurrence of pain in every part of my person, that I know not when or where I am free from suffering. My shoulders, the entire of each side, arms, back, hips, sciatic nerves, all parts of the thighs, knees, legs, ankles, and feet, are equally visited. I go to bed or rise apparently in my usual proportion of health and spirits, when, suddenly (and as generally in the night as in the day) I am attacked with pain, alternating in throbs, varying in degree of acuteness and in duration from one to twenty-four hours, and more particularly under every and the most trifling changes in the state of the atmosphere. Sometimes I am only affected in one place, but not unfrequently in four, five, and more places at the same time, *and often with such extreme intensity that I cannot well describe my experience*, except that it then appears to resemble the agony of those afflicted with the malady termed *tic douloureux*!

"With more or less of these painful visitations of endless variety, I have passed the last twenty-two years, never knowing one moment beyond another when the morbid action will recur, and to which no caution, or mode of living, or change of residence in town or country, has hitherto rendered me less liable. I have never yet been able to meet with the last effectual remedy for my sufferings, although, since my return to Europe in 1818, I have consulted many of the faculty, and perseveringly resorted to all prescribed means, but without experiencing any benefit whatever.

"A. R."

The second letter from this patient, to which I have alluded in my introductory remarks, was addressed to W. D——, Esq.,

a very old friend and an almost constant visiter. After entering into some particulars respecting private affairs, the writer proceeds thus, under date of the 16th of January, 1830.

“I fear this sad weather does not agree with you any more than myself. although I thank God to be enabled to say, that under the instrumentality of Dr. Granville (and I must never forget that *to you alone* I am indebted for having first resorted to his valuable services), I have experienced such an immunity from those severe tormentings which have so long and so deeply harrassed me, that during, I believe I may say, almost during TWENTY-FOUR long years, I have never passed a month so little afflicted with pain (notwithstanding the severity, and to me particularly trying state of the season), as since the 18th of December, on which day he accidentally came into my room during the intensity of one of my violent irritations, of the extremity of which he had, until that moment, formed an imperfect idea. He evidently felt for me, was silent a few minutes, and then, as if by inspiration, suddenly proposed a system from which I appear to have absolutely received almost magical effect:—so much, indeed, has been the change in my favour, that I can at times with difficulty suffer myself to believe it otherwise than a dream.

“Dr. Granville, and I must add, not less kindly, yet attends the variations and progress of my most peculiar case, and at present I entertain the cheering hope of continuing, under the blessings of PROVIDENCE, to enjoy, I dare not say entire, but permanently most considerable relief from his skilful treatment—a relief which *not in the slightest degree* have I ever been able to obtain from any other of the many of the FACULTY (and those too of the highest eminence) whom I have hitherto consulted in the vain expectation of benefit.

Yours, my dear Sir, most faithfully,

ALEX. RILEY.”

This patient, who was about fifty years of age when he first consulted me, had served in a public capacity in Van Diemen's Land, where, during an inland excursion, he was speared by a horde of the natives, and left for dead on the spot, with a sergeant and one or two other individuals of the party. He, however, recovered so far as to be able to crawl to the bank of the river, where his boat had been waiting for him, and returned in safety to the colony. The wound inflicted was not deep; it was situated a little above the right hip, rather towards the spine, and healed in a very short time. The attacks he has so forcibly described in his statement to Dr. Armstrong, began soon after, and the reader will have seen that they had lasted for nearly four-and-twenty years without intermission, when he consulted me. Al-

though almost every part of the body was at times affected, especially during the prevalence of any unusually severe weather, and above all immediately previous to any great change in the weather, the spot which had received the wound was always the most painful, and seldom escaped a single day without becoming the seat of considerable agony.

During the paroxysms, experience had taught Mr. Riley that the quickest mode of dispersing the pain was to clothe the part with flannel bandages, and apply them as tight as he could bear. This process diminished the duration of the pain. He had all sorts of contrivances at hand, both by day and by night, for that purpose; and I have been present on more than one occasion previous to my thinking of the external application which afforded him such instantaneous relief, when he would be attacked in several places, one after the other, and as quickly as possible, in the thighs, legs, and arms, all of which he as quickly bandaged, over his garments, giving to the limbs a most curious appearance. How human existence could have endured under such incessant irritation, it is not easy to determine. That it had slowly undermined his constitution, and induced a state of the most complicated symptoms of dyspepsia, followed by an extensive atrophy of the whole body, there is every reason to believe; and this state of morbid action of the stomach in fact was the very one which had led him, from time to time, to consult so many medical practitioners, and which had induced him, in the first instance, to claim my professional services. As to the pains he suffered, he had, as he himself expresses it, acquired such a conviction that art could do him no good, from the repeated failures of the attempts made to cure him, that he never once even asked me, when I first attended him, whether any thing could be done to shorten his sufferings, beyond what he had himself adopted—namely, pressure, and the moderate use of narcotics.

Mr. Riley continued free from pain until July, 1830, in which month he called on me, whom he had not seen for three months, to inform me that on the 14th a very acute paroxysm of pain, like the attacks of old, had seized the spot where he had been wounded; but that the suffering was immediately relieved by the same external application.

The conclusion of this interesting case was such as might have been predicated. At first, the cessation of the usual daily sufferings permitted the patient to devote more of his attention to his stomach; and by dint of diet and exercise, he so far recovered in that respect as to enjoy, during the rest of that year, and the two years following, a comparatively good state of health; although his emaciated appearance would not have denoted it. During the whole of that period he attended to his daily city occupations, to which he used to proceed either on foot or by a pub-

lic conveyance; and he had no occasion to consult any medical man, except that he called on me once or twice, to repeat how thankful he was for the very mitigated state of his sufferings, and his improved digestion. He lived by rule, and committed no excesses. Still his emaciation continued until the year 1833, when he had become almost a walking skeleton. At length, early in November of that year, nearly four years from the period of his receiving the first benefit of the counter-irritative plan of treatment, I found him, upon being sent for, sinking under the most complete atrophy I have ever witnessed, attended with aphthous ulcerations of the mouth, and of the whole of the gastric and intestinal canal, as evinced by many infallible symptoms. He soon sank, and expired on the 17th of the same month, in my presence, without even the movement of a muscle. There seems no doubt that had the suspension of the intense nervous suffering, which he had obtained through the external antidynous counter-irritant, and enjoyed for a period of four years, been afforded him twenty years before, his life might have been spared to a more advanced age.

CASE II.

Permanent Tic douloureux of the Cheek, Ear, and Throat.

Mrs. P——, a young married lady, had been afflicted for upwards of three months, at the period of my seeing her on the 19th of March, 1830, a little way out of town, with constant neuralgic pain of the lower half of the left cheek, at times exceedingly acute, and generally shooting into the ear, or down the muscles of the neck on the same side. The patient was moreover labouring under a manifest disease of the heart, which induced me to inform her, that I feared the system of counter-irritation would not succeed in affording her permanent benefit. She however insisted on trying the external application, as she felt very desirous to procure some relief from the constant pain she was suffering, and which no internal remedy hitherto employed had in the least diminished. An antidynous lotion, diluted with one third of its bulk of water, was applied to the left side of the neck, immediately under the jaw, and the application timed by a watch. In five minutes she complained of great heat and cutting in the part. The skin was then quite red. In five minutes more the counter-irritation set up had much increased, but the inward pain had become in proportion more bearable, until it disappeared at last altogether, before the expiration of a quarter of an hour. As the strength of the lotion had been reduced, no blister followed its application.

CASE III.

Permanent Tic douloureux of the Face.

In May, 1832, Mrs. Usherwood, a person residing in Brown-street, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square, applied for advice on account of her mother, who for a considerable length of time had suffered great tortures, from intense pain in the nerves of the upper part of the face, temple, and orbit of the eye of the right side. The antidynous lotion of moderate strength was applied in the usual manner to the temple, care having been taken to cover the eye with a towel. A blister was raised in six minutes, which relieved the pain as quickly, and healed without any other application than that of rags dipped in warm water. The neuralgic pain never afterwards returned.

CASE IV.

Tic douloureux of the Chin, alternating with general numbness of the part.

The Right Hon. the Countess of ———, whom I had often attended on former occasions during ordinary attacks of disease, requested my advice for a singular affection of the chin, under which she had been labouring for some time. This lady had formerly been, and still was, occasionally subject to very severe headaches of a nervous character, which confined her to a dark room for two or three days. On the 14th of July, 1832, her ladyship informed me that, for many days, her chin, including the under lip, had been attacked at irregular periods, by day as well as by night, with the severest pain in one or two spots,—which was scarcely bearable,—and that, between the intervals, every part of the chin not only felt numbed and insensible, but was actually so, even when pressed or pinched. As the attacks of positive pain were very frequent, an opportunity was soon afforded me of witnessing one of them. The antidynous lotion,—with the efficacy of which her ladyship was acquainted, from having witnessed the good effect of it on her sister-in-law, whose case will be related further on,—being proposed to her and assented to, was applied on that part of the chin which corresponds with the opening through which the mandibulo-labralis branch of the fifth nerve comes out from the bone to the muscles and integuments. The result was an instantaneous removal of the pain, and a return of the natural sensibility of the part. The application produced vesication, not in a general mass, but in distinct little dots, where it was curious to observe the epidermis rising up, followed by a minute drop of fluid which filled it; and this took place during the space of some minutes after the lotion had been removed. In about a week the pain seemed disposed to re-appear, a leech applied to the gum prevented its return.

CASE VI.

Tic douloureux of the left side of the Head and Face.

A young lady of Southampton, remarkable for her general appearance of perfect health and personal attractions, lately married, was placed under my care nearly ten years ago, while labouring under a chronic disorder of the abdomen, accompanied by excruciating pain, the result of severe inflammation of the peritoneum, that had lasted several months, from which she had ultimately though with difficulty recovered. A few years afterwards she was seized with acute pains in the left temple, extending upwards and downwards, shooting into the eye, and spreading to the back of the head. During the paroxysms I have seen the two eyelids of that side drawn forcibly towards the temple, and brought nearly in contact; the eyebrow at the same time descending, while the skin of the cheek seemed pulled up towards the eye. These paroxysms would continue several minutes; flashes of light shot through the eye, and the globe of it was exquisitely tender to the touch. The frequency of the attacks, and the length of time they had lasted, when I first saw the patient for the present complaint, had produced a visible diminution of size in the oval of the orbit, and a perpetual morbid tenderness of the scalp. She wished to try the effect of some external application, to stop the pain, and keep it under control; as she had failed in obtaining any relief from internal medicines, and scarcely expected to be cured. On the very first opportunity I applied a compress, with the antidynous counter-irritating lotion; pressing it steadily on the left temple. In two minutes all contraction had ceased, and the pain was gone. That day it never returned. On the following day, however, it again invaded the part, and again it was suddenly stopped by the same application. No blister was raised on those occasions. In this manner the really painful part of the complaint was mastered and kept in check; and surely such a truce from bodily suffering (never obtained before) was worth obtaining, and deserved the warm acknowledgments of thankfulness it received from the patient. After a continued treatment of some weeks, the young lady had a long interval of cessation of the disorder. It returned in the following year, but was again mastered; and although from time to time ever since (but in successively diminishing degrees,) the patient has been made sensible of her former complaint,—her general health, even in that respect, has been so much improved, that she does not look upon herself as in any way requiring medical aid.

2. *Intermittent Hemicrania, or Brow Ague.*

I shall borrow from the lectures of a very industrious as well as ingenious physiologist and brother practitioner, Dr. Marshall Hall, a brief summary of this disease:—"The ague pain, called

the brow ague, occupies the brow, the temple, the forehead, the back of the head, &c.; it occurs in paroxysms, frequently of considerable regularity. It is often excruciating, occasionally inducing delirium, and still more frequently redness in the conjunctiva. It may recur once or twice in the day; is apt to return in the spring and autumn, from exposure to the northeast wind; prevails in damp or marshy districts, and is frequently observed to accompany the epidemic influenza. This pain is almost certainly removed by quinine or arsenic." In all this, with the exception of the concluding sentiment, I fully coincide. Quinine or arsenic, which cures intermittent fever, too often fails to cure the nervous pain of the brow by which it is accompanied. When that especial affection of the nerve is not clearly connected with the marshy intermittent fever, neither quinine nor arsenic will make an impression on it; as will be seen in the two following distinct cases among many others.

CASE X.

Brow ague of the superorbit of the right Eye.

Count de ———, Secretary to one of the foreign missions in London, and since promoted to the rank of minister plenipotentiary, had been suffering for several weeks under daily and severe visitations of superorbital neuralgic pain, which invariably came on at eight o'clock in the morning, and generally lasted till noon. In hopes of being released from so troublesome a complaint, the count had had recourse to almost every species of treatment that had been recommended to him, and in default of all benefit derived from the suggestions of the regular London practitioners, he had applied to a well-known surgeon at Bromley, who had treated him with large doses of bark, but without success. Again disappointed in his expectations, the patient at last betook himself to the consulting-room of the late Mr. St. John Long, which he assiduously frequented, without, however, obtaining the smallest particle of benefit from that individual's peculiar mode of treatment. About this time the count heard of one or two cases of tic and spasmodic nervous pains which I had cured, by means of the antidynous and counter-irritating lotion, and he was in consequence induced to request my advice upon his case, respecting which he supplied me with all the preceding particulars. On Tuesday, the 20th of July, 1830, I attended him at his lodgings in South Audley street, before eight, A. M., the hour of the expected attack of brow tic. I had not long to wait before it afforded me an opportunity of witnessing its sudden inroad, and the frightful contractions as well as quiverings it produced, in the parts affected. A compress with the lotion was instantly applied to the brow, and kept hard pressed in its place for five minutes (care having been taken previously to

protect the eye.) The spasmodic contractions were almost immediately suspended, and soon relaxed. At the expiration of two minutes the pain was completely gone, and at the end of three minutes more a prominent blister was raised, which discharged a great quantity of serum,—scalding the part as it trickled down the side of the face. The blistered surface healed, in three days, without any trouble, *and the complaint never afterwards re-appeared.*

CASE XI.

Brow ague of the orbit of the left Eye.

Lady Caroline ———, a young and unmarried daughter of the Earl of ———, was, during the unavoidable absence of her regular medical adviser, an eminent physician, who was then attending the sick bed of his own wife, placed under my care in April, 1836. She was apparently labouring under some accidental catarrhal complaint, of an acute character, accompanied by severe cough, soreness of the throat, and fever. In addition to this indisposition another had supervened, in the shape of an acute pain, which was almost permanent, extending from one end of the left eyebrow to the other, contracting it, and occasionally shooting into the eye and down the left side of the nose. The remedies she was taking, and which appeared most judiciously prescribed, had relieved her symptoms of the pectoral disease, but had done nothing towards diminishing the superorbital pain, which was at times said to be intolerable. Finding no reason to alter the medicines she was taking for the general complaint, I simply confined my advice to the use of the antidynous lotion, placed on the forehead or the temple, for the neuralgic pain. The application was made by myself, as I seldom trust the first operation of the remedy to the patient himself or his attendants. Before I left the house the pain was gone. I saw her ladyship two days after, and she had had no positive return of the pain, although at times she had been threatened with it. But the use of the same external application diluted with water, had prevented the full development of the pain. Whether it ever came back again I have no means of ascertaining, as the patient soon after returned under the care of her own regular medical attendant, for a continuance of the treatment of her more general indisposition.

3.—*Obscure Nervous Pains.*

We assume that the organs of sensibility are the seat of pain. Wherever, therefore, the latter is present, no matter in what part of the body, it is usual to conclude that a nerve is somehow or other affected. In general, such affections are so well marked, and so characterised, that (as we have already seen and shall

again see, in the present work) we can distinguish them by particular names significative of their origin, their cause, their individual situation, or all of these together. But there are pains (still of the nervous kind) which do not lend themselves to any known classification, and to which, therefore, it is next to impossible to assign any particular denomination. They are in fact obscure in every way; obscure in their situation; obscure in the individual nerve they may reside in; obscure in their origin; still more obscure in their connection with other organs, and in their influence on the general or particular functions of the body. Almost every practitioner has met with such nondescript pains in the course of his experience, if it has been large; and the best writers on the nervous system and its disorders, Bell, Swan, Louis, Ollivier, and others, have not only noticed them, but decided on considering them as "obscure nervous pains." I cannot follow better guides than those eminent men, in adopting such a denomination; especially as I fully coincide in their views on the subject.

CASE XIII.

Acute pain, assuming the character of inflammation in the instep, mistaken for gout.

On the 26th of June, 1832, being in attendance on the young son of Lord F—— L—— G——, his lordship, after the visit, requested my attention and advice respecting a singular affection of the instep, under which he was then labouring, and from which he had, on three former occasions, suffered to a very great extent, and for several days. The complaint, at the first onset, had been treated as gout; then as a mere local inflammatory affection of the part; again, as a sympathetic disorder dependent on the stomach; and lastly, once more as gout,—that being the more general impression. The treatment had varied as much as the opinions had; and it was only after a very long season of excruciating sufferings, followed by many weeks of crutch-exercise, that his lordship had recovered the use of his feet. On the present occasion, the disorder had only just began its inroad on the same part, but it already threatened to be fully as painful, and was as much inclined to inflammatory action, as before. The patient could scarcely stand upright without pain, and walked as a lame man walks. With the pain, there was a sensation of stiffness also, produced, I presume, by the swelling of the part; and the surface was partially red. The general health was evidently not good; but whether that arose from the great bodily suffering or from the several remedies, principally mercurial, which the patient had been taking, I had no time to enquire. The circumstance itself, however, induced me to prescribe such internal remedies as I deemed calculated to restore health; while at the same time I

prevailed on the patient to allow me to apply a thick compress over the affected part, with the antidynous and counter-irritating lotion. In a few minutes the pain subsided, but did not completely disappear; in consequence of which I recommended that the instep should be bandaged tight with the compress upon it, and that the latter should be maintained in its place till after his lordship's arrival at O—, whither he was proceeding with his family that same afternoon. A doubt existed in my mind as to the complaint being genuine gout, and I felt rather inclined to view it as one of those obscure and anomalous nervous pains, which may occur at times in almost any part of the body. Hence my recommendation of the instantaneous counter-irritant. For some days I was kept in ignorance of the effect of that recommendation; but on the 6th of July I received from O—— a letter, of which the following is a copy.

“Sir,—I had fully intended to make you acquainted with the result of your treatment of my complaint in the instep, but had put off doing so till your last communication with Lady F—— reminded me of the omission. The treatment was completely successful. It is at least certain that the sensations of pain, stiffness, &c., gave me reason to expect as long and severe an infliction of the malady as any of the three former attacks, and that within twenty-four hours (*instead of ten days*) of the local application recommended by you being used, with the internal medicines, the disorder departed. I found by the time I arrived at O——, that the lotion had raised several small blisters. The next day the pain appeared to have shifted a little lower down, when I applied the lotion to the place without producing a blister, and within two or three days I had nothing left but the weakness incident to the former swelling, and which is now quite removed, or at least imperceptible on any ordinary use or motion of the joint.

“I cannot hesitate to ascribe the comparative quickness of my recovery to the use of the local application, as, although the advance of the disorder had been less rapid than on former occasions, and the seat of it less extended, the pain for a time had been quite as acute and indicative of severe and increasing inflammation; and the usual and necessary means of calomel, abstinence, &c., had been resorted to, as on former occasions, without any immediate effect.

“I imagine that the success of this treatment is conclusive against the case being one of ordinary gout.

“I remain your humble servant,

“*Dr. Granville.*”

F—— L—— G—— ”

CASE XIV.

Gnawing, and almost permanent pain at the pit of the stomach, occasionally much aggravated.

A gentleman residing in Queen Anne street, who has been all his life subject to irregular or disturbed digestion, and who in former years had suffered under ordinary attacks of gout, in one of which I had attended him professionally,—has experienced for the last five years an almost incessant pain at the pit of the stomach, near to that part which corresponds to the origin of the duodenum or first intestine. Sometimes the pain is increased by pressure, at other times not. When very acute it has once or twice occasioned nausea, and even actual sickness or vomiting.—Palpitations of the heart seem pretty constant attendants on the pain, and the disturbance of the nervous system is simultaneous with that of the circulation. Still there is no reason for believing the heart or any part of its structure to be positively affected, as no such disorder can be detected by the stethoscope. This pain is generally of that acute character which plainly denotes its seat and origin; and although I will not deny that an obstinate dyspeptic condition of the stomach may be greatly concerned in the production of such a pain, I can have no hesitation in considering it as principally nervous. Every means internal as well as external, having been resorted to without success, I recommended about three years ago the strong antidynous counter-irritant to be used, which produced the happiest result. The pain has however returned from time to time since; but the patient is so well acquainted with the degree of relief he can always command, by laying a compress saturated with the same counter-irritating embrocation on the part, that whenever it becomes necessary, he as invariably has recourse to that embrocation, and always with more or less success.

4.—Spasms and Convulsions.

It is not easy to define what is meant by spasms, and what by convulsions, as terms distinct from each other. Both imply, in common parlance, a joint affection of nerves and muscles, the primary seat of the disease in each case being the nervous system, and the seat of the manifestation of the disease in each case being the muscular system; pain more or less acute accompanying necessarily both disorders. They may therefore be assumed to be modifications of one and the same morbid affection, with this further difference—that whereas the term spasm is generally employed to denote a convulsion of a limited part of the body,—the term convulsion is more commonly used to convey the idea of a patient whom we might imagine to be attacked with spasms all over the body. This explanation has no pretence to be either clas-

sically scientific, or strictly physiological, but must be taken simply as an exposition of the visible characters of the two complaints in question.

With these few popular and practical distinctions respecting two of the most important species of nervous affections—important because of the danger that attaches to them—important because they have often baffled the best treatment—important also because they have offered an ample field to prove the efficacy of the counter-irritating plan of treating them—I proceed to narrate some interesting examples of the two disorders, tending to evince the superiority of the antidynous lotion, in both, but more especially in the cases of spasms.

The first of the cases I am about to relate is one which on every account will be found to merit serious attention. The individual who is the subject of it has emptied indeed, to the very dregs, the bitter cup of suffering; first, on account of the bodily pain,—acute, persevering, and almost destructive,—which has formed the salient type of her complaint; secondly, on account of the repeated relapses of the complaint, at periods when health seemed almost completely restored; and thirdly, on account of the unwarrantable manner in which the case was dragged before the public on a recent occasion, distorted, exaggerated, and altogether represented to be what it never in reality was,—a mysterious and a mystical ailment. All this the individual in question has borne with fortitude, resignation, and that serenity of mind which is the surest means of promoting and finally securing complete recovery. At least I will vouch that, as far as I have been professionally connected with the case, either during actual personal observation and attendance, or, when I was not in attendance, by means of reports from the best witnesses,—the portrait I have here given of the patient and of her bearings is in no way distorted.

CASE XVIII.

Diurnal spasm of the lumbo-dorsal and cervical nerves, accompanied by difficulty of breathing, palpitation, and a sense of suffocation.

The Countess of ———, a married lady, closely allied to two of the first families in this country, was placed under my care on the 12th of March, 1835, on account of what was described to be a spasmodic complaint of the back, attended by acute pain, under which she had suffered for eight months, notwithstanding the assiduous and skilful care of Sir Charles M. Clark, Mr. Copland, and others, as well as of the late Dr. Hugh Ley, who was considered in the light of family physician, and had attended her ladyship in her first confinement the year before. On the day in question, having first ascertained, at the commencement of my visit, that the patient was no longer under any medical advice than

that of Dr. Ley,—who during his then temporary indisposition, had left it open to the family to consult any medical gentlemen they pleased,—I enquired into the history of the case, first, from the mother of the lady, and next from the patient herself, whom I found considerably reduced in flesh, unable to walk upright, and in a state of health far from satisfactory, notwithstanding her good spirits. Their history was afterwards confirmed by a full written statement of the origin and progress of the complaint, with which the patient favoured me; but to which I shall not refer (as immaterial to the object of my narrative) except merely to remark, that the beginning of the complaint was dated from a sudden and severe chill, caught at a water party in the month of July of the preceding year. From that period to the one at which I first saw the patient, the mere pain in the back,—with which the disease had begun,—by the gradual deteriorations of health which took place in the different parts of the country, at different periods, and under different treatments, (while attended by some of the most experienced practitioners)—had assumed the formidable, and, to all appearance, unconquerable form under which it afterwards presented itself to my notice.

Turning now aside all collateral or extraneous matter as not necessary to our purpose, I will proceed at once to describe the state in which I found the patient, when the paroxysm of spasm and pain was full upon her. I had the first day promised to call again in the evening, so as to contrive to be in attendance by half-past eight o'clock—a little before the hour on which an attack was declared to come on every day. Some engagement, however, detained me for a few minutes beyond that hour. After entering the house, and while ascending the stairs, the first sounds that struck my ears were the loud moanings, and sobbings, and expressions of pain, which seemed to come from the second or bedroom floor and which as it turned out, were the loud expressions of suffering uttered by the devoted patient, on whom the attack had that evening come rather unexpectedly, and by several minutes sooner than the ordinary time.

When I entered the chamber, in which were the Duchess of ———, the lady's mother, and a female attendant, the agony of the patient must have been excessive,—judging by her contortions, the agitation and cramping of her limbs, and the severe pain of which she complained. She was laid flat on a couch, and her spine examined, when it was found that the whole length of it seemed in motion,—representing not unaptly, the annular movements of a snake. Even the iliac bones were drawn up and down with a jerk and violence of motion, such as I had never seen before, and should have deemed almost impossible, had I not seen it. The pain, like the electric fluid, shot up along the backbone into the occiput, and thence through the head into the globes of

the eyes, which became painful, rolled violently in their sockets, and gave a dismal character to the face, itself greatly agitated. The patient could just mutter a few words in answer to my questions, from which I learned that pain was then pervading the shoulders and arms as well as the lower extremities; that the surface of the abdomen felt sore on the slightest pressure, and especially so in the position she was then placed; lastly, that she experienced a sense of suffocation in the chest. There came on, while I was present, a severe cramp in the calves of the legs, and the feet felt very cold to the touch. As to the pulse, I found it next to impossible to count it, and the movements of the heart were equally rapid and irregular. Such was the violence of the attack, that although I endeavoured to press with some degree of firmness upon the back-bone, so as to keep it down in its natural position,—one of the many convulsive throes or spasmodic leaps of that part occurred more than once, which, by bending the spine almost double, anteriorly, threw off like an inferior weight the pressure of my hands. The scene was truly heart-rending, and not to be described in words. I prescribed and sent for a moderately strong antidyneous lotion,—considering this to be a case in which such a counter-irritant might be of great service. I explained, in the mean while, the nature of the proposed remedy, and the effect I hoped it might produce; although I could not venture to answer for the fulfilment of my expectations. Trusting that there might not exist any real local and substantial disorder of any of the nerves (organic,) but that the whole train of nervous suffering was one connected by sympathy with portions of structure then, and for many months, in a state of irritation,—I had a right to assume, agreeably to my experience, that the embrocation I tendered would allay, if not altogether arrest, the agonies under which the fair patient was writhing.

The preparation came, and I instantly applied a thick compress of linen, three inches square, saturated with it, on a portion of the spinal column, above the place which had been cupped and blistered during previous treatments. The watch was held by the mother. In three seconds the moaning ceased; in five seconds more the patient heaved a deep sigh; before the first minute elapsed, she said that “the pain was going,” and presently “that it was gone.” She exclaimed at the same time that “the application was a blessing; it smarted much, but was a pleasure to her.”—Two or three more deep sighs followed, which, I concluded, announced the cessation of the paroxysm. On enquiry afterwards, I learned that in general, the diurnal paroxysms, which always lasted three hours, terminated in a succession of deep sighs. Wishing to make the matter more certain, I applied the same compress, still rather wet, on another and a little higher spot, and on a third place still higher, after having supplied the compress with

a small quantity of fresh lotion. Altogether the three applications lasted three and a half minutes, during which the whole extent of the surface of the back-bone became red and hot, but no immediate blister followed. Whether or not one might have risen had I prolonged the application, I could not, nor would I answer for. I left on the part the napkin which had served to keep down the compress, and which was moist with part of the lotion, in order to maintain for a little while longer, the artificial counter-irritation; and I desired that if a blister ensued, the cuticle should not be broken; for which reason I requested the patient would sleep on her right side, and upon a cool and hard mattress, without an under-blanket. I further directed that no medicine whatever should be taken; to which the patient readily agreed, as she had already, of her own accord, determined not to take some assafœtida pills, which had been a few days before prescribed for her.

On the following morning I found that the patient had passed the whole night without any return of pain or spasm. At this second visit, Dr. H. Ley, whom I accidentally met in the street, accompanied me. He had seen the patient early in the morning, and learned from her the almost magical quickness with which the paroxysm had been put an end to on the previous night. When I explained to him in the presence of the patient, as well as of the Duke and Duchess of —, her father and mother, the simple combination of the counter-irritant by which success had been obtained, he was rather surprised that the same application should not have been thought of for his patient before; the more so as the idea of relieving her by the ordinary counter-irritants had not only been entertained, but acted upon, with very imperfect and only temporary effect. This last circumstance inclined him to fear, that even with the more powerful agent, now so successfully employed, the benefit might prove of short duration only.

Following up my notion of counter-irritation, I proposed, with the view to prevent further attacks, to excite and keep up rubefaction, and even vesication, if necessary, on the insteps. This being agreed to by Dr. Ley, the wet compresses were applied and tied firmly down to the insteps; but owing to the feet being exceedingly chilly, no sensible effect was produced by the lotion until at the expiration of nearly twenty minutes. In the evening no attack came on. The application being repeated on the feet, they smarted greatly this time in a very few minutes, owing to their having been made warm and sensitive by the first application in the morning. The only medicine I prescribed at this visit was a simple manna draught for the morning.

It would be useless, and it is not my intention, to detail the further history of this interesting case day by day. From the 13th to the 21st no sort of attack or spasm came on. On the latter

day, in the morning, having seen reason to apprehend a return of the complaint, I proposed to the patient a consultation for the evening, at which Dr. Ley and the earl her husband was present. There were then serious threatenings of a return of the spasm, which were realised at half after nine o'clock. Being immediately placed in the same position as before, the counter-irritant was applied to the lumbar region, and pressed down with firmness. In one minute, by Dr. Ley's watch, the spasm stopped, and with it all further suffering. I repeated the application upon two other places, which smarted much in consequence of it; but no blister was produced. The patient soon after was left to herself, quite cheerful and comfortable.

Two other attacks took place between the 21st of March and the 17th of April, in each of which the pain, as well as the spasmodic action, was stopped within a minute of time, by the counter-irritant, in the same manner as before. Of the four attacks in five weeks (instead of one every day,) which the patient had had since my first adoption of the counter-irritating plan of treatment, two had extended to the posterior region of the head, from the very first moment of their appearance. In one of these the pain continued almost insupportable for upwards of half an hour, before the counter-irritant was applied, as I was not within reach for that purpose; but when it was applied, the spasmodic pain in the cerebellum or occipital region, ceased as instantaneously as in all the previous paroxysms; so that the head got well, although the embrocation was put on the lumbar or lower portion of the spine only.

In the course of the five weeks alluded to, the general health of the patient improved daily and visibly; her strength, her appetite, her appearance, all improved; and having recovered at the same time the use of her feet the back having become quite straight, and no symptom of nervous suffering being present, Lady —— was handed down into the drawing-room on the 2d of April; being the first time she had used her limbs for many months. This general amendment went on progressing from week to week, notwithstanding several occasional drawbacks of local pains, bilious derangements, indigestion, &c., until the 30th of May, when I took my leave of my patient,—who by this time had returned into society, and had joined in all its festivities, like one who had never been indisposed.

The only comment I have to offer on this most important example of nervous disease, is to wind up my narrative of its history in the language of the suffering patient herself—language which will convey, more forcibly than I have done, some of the characteristic features of her complaint. Having requested her ladyship, the moment she began to prosper under the counter-irritating treatment, to supply me with a written statement of the

origin and progress of her sufferings, she proceeded to comply with my request, and from her full statement I select these few sentences:—"My nervousness increased every day until the end of December, 1834, when the spasms which I had suffered a few weeks before again returned, and never left me until your first visit early in March, when you stopped them with such miraculous expedition. They generally came on every evening between nine and eleven o'clock, although sometimes they would miss a day or two. The describing any thing like the degree of pain I suffered is *impossible*. Neither description nor idea can come up to such a reality. I will, however, endeavour to put down a few of my feelings. I was always able to tell for hours before, whether I was likely to have an attack or not. I generally felt cold and hot alternately; my feet were mostly numbed and as cold as ice; I started every minute, and felt a sort of contraction of the nerves, attended with strong muscular efforts and contractions. The pain appeared to begin in my back, and to shoot across to my stomach and side. *It seemed as if knives were running from every vertebra inwardly*, and shooting up to my head, not like a common headache, but like a pain at the back of the head, which darted through the brain to the ball of the eyes. Besides all these shooting pains during the spasms, I always felt as if the spinal marrow (I believe the inside of the spine is so called) was *burning and melting*. The vessels connected with it felt overcharged, and it appeared to me as if the nerves and muscles were twisted and knotted together, pulling me in different directions, with pain in the sides which drew me down most violently, and a sensation withal, that made me think my back-bone must be crushed or broken," &c. &c.

These unheard-of sufferings then, which for six months had baffled all medical skill and every medicine, yielded in a few minutes to the external application of the antidynous lotion.—Surely, even if no other good had ever resulted from such preparations, when properly and suitably used, this instantaneous putting an end to a never-failing coming on of pain, day after day—this rescuing of the victim of that pain from its excruciating tortures for months together—even these things, I say, invest such preparations with a sufficiently strong claim to the immediate attention of the profession and the public.

CASE XIX.

Spasmodic attacks in the renal portion of the back mistaken for an affection of the kidneys.

Count —, a young foreign nobleman who had not always taken the best care of his health, and whose constitution had at first been impaired by the climate of this country, was seized, sometime in the spring of 1830, with acute, thrilling, and *draw-*

ing pain, a little above the edge of the hip-bone on each side of the spine, which it seemed also to involve. A feeling of contraction, or of an inward puckering up of parts, accompanied each attack,—which, from being at first short and not very frequent, became afterwards longer in duration, as well as of more frequent occurrence. No plausible cause could be assigned for the attacks. It is needless to recapitulate all the various steps and measures the patient had been desired to adopt, with the view to his recovery; for none of them seemed to have made any impression on the pain. Some medical men, indeed, (and among them the late skilful surgeon Mr. Rose) having imagined that the attack might be referred to the presence of gravel, or a calculus in the kidneys, or to inflammation in the cavities of those excreting organs, leeches, cupping, and the ordinary counter-irritants had been applied on the painful part. The success was not encouraging, and the patient was about to make up his mind to bear his sufferings without murmuring and with resignation, when I proposed to him the use of the antidynous lotion. The proposition being acceded to, we had immediate and ample reason to be satisfied with the result; for at each application, which was rendered necessary from time to time by the succession of paroxysms of pain, the lotion arrested it almost instantaneously, thereby shortening the usual period of suffering, from several hours to a few minutes. That the neuralgic pain thus controlled by the counter-irritant, was dependent on some general cause, not within the influence of that application, is more than probable, seeing that the paroxysms continued to recur (although at longer intervals) in spite of its powerful agency in stopping them when once they had begun. Still it is a fact, that but for the agency in question the patient must have gone on suffering hours of agony, which no other remedy appeared capable of alleviating. Accordingly I learned afterwards from the patient, that he never travelled to any distance from town without carrying with him a small supply of the lotion; and although now, at the distance of some years (having recovered his general health and natural strength during a short residence on the continent,) Count — can boast of being free from the attacks of his former complaint of the nerves, as he has lately assured me,—yet he never fails to use the counter-irritating lotion, if the slightest indication of pain comes on in the old place, and always with the same instantaneous good effect.

CASE XX.

Spasm and convulsive thrilling of the nerves and muscles in the right side of the back.

An unmarried lady, aged between forty and fifty years, residing with a most affectionate sister not far from Cavendish square,

had for many years laboured under frequent attacks of hemicrania, dependent on a thoroughly deranged state of digestion, although no person could live more cautiously or temperately than she had done all her life. A few years back she became subject to affections of the trachea and bronchia, in several attacks of which, her medical attendants, and myself among them, were compelled to use the lancet rather freely. Of this tendency to attacks in the chest and throat, the patient had in a great degree been able to set herself free within the last two or three years, and with that tendency went away likewise the liability to frequent sick and nervous headaches, and to general derangement of the stomach. But in lieu of all this, a singular kind of seizure of the nerves and muscles of the right super-renal region has set in (1836,) which during the last eighteen months, has, on many occasions, required medical assistance. As no other professional person but myself, except when she resides in the country, has attended this lady for the last eighteen years, her constitution is thoroughly known to me; and the new garb, therefore, which her natural disposition to congestive accumulation of blood (producing pressure on the nerves, and consequent pain) assumed in the present attacks, was not likely to mislead me. Medicines were accordingly prescribed to remove the congestion, and by means of local as well as general evacuants and depletion, we obtained a notable relief from suffering. It was remarked that pressure hardly increased the existing pain, unless the part was pushed inwardly with considerable firmness and perseverance; and also, that if the patient, immediately upon the coming on of an attack, laid herself down in a horizontal posture, the pain became soon very bearable. With all these contrivances and means, however, the real bodily suffering, during each paroxysm, never diminishes in so short a time as when the strongest antidynous counter-irritant is applied to the part, and firmly pressed upon it for the space of five or eight minutes. For, although the requisite remedies prescribed to cure the disease, have each time succeeded in that object at the expiration of a few days, the spasmodic or nervous pain in the part, as already described, has nevertheless continued in a greater or lesser degree, during the whole period of the cure, unless the assistance of the counter-irritant in question has been had recourse to.—That it has not been resorted to on all occasions, was owing to the apprehension of its forming a blister, as had been the case once or twice, in consequence of having left the application on the part too long. But such omissions have been of very rare occurrence; for the patient is now intimately persuaded of the immense advantage of cutting short, by so simple a remedy as the antidynous lotion, a pain which is described, as nearly as possible, to be like that of the worst description of internal *tic dolou-*

reux. This is so much her present persuasion, that in two or three of the later attacks (all of which had exhibited a gradual diminution in their intensity,) she has herself had recourse to the antidyne, without requiring my aid, and with the desired effect.

5. *Epilepsy.*

CASE XXV.

Protracted case of Sympathetic Epilepsy completely cured at last by Sulphate of Zinc taken internally, and by external Counter-irritation.

The subject of this case, a lady, began to manifest symptoms of an epileptic character at the early and critical age of fourteen years. At first these symptoms were not heeded much, though means were suggested to prevent their recurrence, and to shorten their duration whenever an attack came on. None of the many plans, however, adopted, either in England or abroad, seemed to produce the smallest permanent good effect in staying the progress of the disease, which, on the contrary, growing with its growth as it were, became more and more importunate and distressing as the young lady advanced in years. As there could be no doubt of the nature of the complaint, and the source to which it was to be ascribed, every measure was adopted to counteract the evil tendency of the latter, and so to render it at least perfectly harmless. In all this we succeeded but imperfectly. The attacks were at times so capriciously frequent, and at others so unaccountably apart, that no relation could be established between the curative means employed and their result, with the view of forming a correct opinion as to any success already obtained or hereafter to be expected. The attacks came on at night during sleep, as well as in the daytime; and the patient would, on their first coming on, invariably fall to the ground, if she was standing at the time and alone,—a circumstance of a very rare occurrence indeed, owing to the unceasing and solicitous care bestowed by two most affectionate parents upon their amiable daughter. Years rolled on in this manner, and the lady grew to womanhood, without being able to produce herself into society, owing to the incessant apprehension of an attack occurring in public. Having had the constant management of the case from the first, and having declared my deliberate opinion respecting its final issue, to which I steadily adhered,—I never allowed myself to swerve from the line of practice to be pursued. At the same time, great allowance and deference being due to the anxiety and painful impatience of parents, I took care never to stand in the way of any new and safe trial of remedies which were proposed by others, whether professional or domestic; and our patient went through not a few of them in the course of some years, without any material benefit.

It was at last determined to place her under the persevering

action of those remedial agents on which I had from the first stated that I would rely, and could venture to promise a cure ; and it is scarcely necessary after this to add, that counter-irritation was one of those agents. This was obtained by means of the antidynous lotion used at the vesicating degree of strength on the vertebral column—an application which soon afforded ground for rejoicing that it had been resorted to. Along with it an occasional energetic evacuant (not composed of mercury—for that drug had been employed before, *ad nauseum*, by others to no purpose,) and small doses of sulphate of zinc, in pills, daily repeated, were conjoined. Through all these means the disease was at last conquered ; and the lady has for the last three years returned to her station in the world, *perfectly well*, in bodily as well as intellectual health,—the knowledge of her former harassing malady, of fourteen years' duration, having all that time been confined to about half a dozen individuals in the family.

CASE XXVI.

Another example of Sympathetic Epilepsy from a cause different from the preceding—shortly cured by Counter-irritation.

Mrs. —, the lady of a wealthy banker, whom I had occasion to attend between the years 1822 and 1830, in several of her confinements, was during the first months of pregnancy subject to paroxysms of epilepsy,—the attacks coming on soon, if not immediately, after the beginning of gestation, and continuing more or less twice, and sometimes three times a month, until after the period of quickening. The remainder of the nine months was generally passed in tranquillity and perfect health; nor was there any thing particular at the time of the confinement itself. During the first and second pregnancies, every species of remedy that could be thought of had been resorted to, in hopes of stopping this strange affection, which in every respect resembled epilepsy. The profession know that such a form of nervous affection is by no means singular, though of rare occurrence, in females who are placed in the same delicate situation. Bleeding from the arm produced no effect. Cupping near the region of the spinal column made no impression. Ordinary blistering was suggested, and adopted during one or two paroxysms; but the tedious, troublesome, and painful nature of the remedy, which after all was too slow in arresting the attack when on, and inefficient in preventing the next attack, induced the patient to resist all further application of it. Still it was deemed likely that counter-irritation on some part of the spine, if it could but be produced rapidly, indeed instantaneously, while the paroxysm was in action, might tend to check it. On one occasion, that the epileptic attack, accompanied by more than usually severe convulsions, foaming at the mouth, rigidity of the limbs, and other symptoms, seemed to threaten some serious consequences, I pre-

scribed an extemporaneous liniment, composed of essential oil of thyme (oleum origani,) tincture of cantharides, and soap liniment; which being rubbed up and down the spine (the patient lying on her side on the bed) seemed in the course of a quarter of an hour to produce a rally. But altogether the result was not as satisfactory as could be wished, and therefore all further attempts at interfering with the nervous system, either during that or any other subsequent pregnancy, was abandoned. In the year 1830, however, on the occasion of my attending Mrs. — for the last time as an accoucheur, finding her again under the visitation of her strange malady during the early period of her pregnancy, and having then the power of the antidynous lotion at my command, I prevailed on the patient to allow me to try that application in her case. A compress strongly saturated with that preparation was accordingly placed on the lumbar region, and pressed down for five minutes, while the convulsive motion of the limbs, the foaming at the mouth, the gnashing of the teeth, and apparent unconsciousness were going on. At the expiration of that time all these symptoms had ceased, and Mrs. — again got on her feet in less than a quarter of an hour, without either of those feelings of lassitude and general soreness of the body, or the intense headache, which used invariably to follow the ordinary paroxysms after going through their natural period of duration of seldom less than an hour, and, at times, more. No blister followed the application. The same result was obtained at each succeeding attack of the disease, the number of which was not diminished materially by the external application, but their duration always; thereby showing the superiority of the remedy in question to any other employed in affording instantaneous relief. It is worthy of remark that the mother and grandmother of this lady had been (as my patient assured me) subject to the same temporary nervous affection, when placed under similar circumstances.

CASE XXX.

Stridulous and convulsive respiration, accompanied by pain, during an attack of pulmonic disease.

Madame —, a foreign lady, aged forty-five years, residing in the family of a distinguished naval officer, of a high rank, connected with the court, was attacked in the month of April, 1835, with what has been termed *peripneumonia notha*, or bastard inflammation of the lungs. For a few days previously she had suffered from rheumatic pains in various parts of the body, in consequence, as was supposed, of checked perspiration, caused by exposure to a draft, while waiting during a sudden shower, under a porch, for a carriage, after a long walk in warm weather. The difficulty of breathing was so great, and the pain in the chest, though obscure, was said to be so distressing, that bleeding had

been had recourse to before I saw the patient. Although the general symptoms of the attack seemed somewhat alleviated by the measures adopted antecedent to my visit, I still found the patient hardly able to take in a moderate respiration without being stopped by an expression of sudden pain, and by cough without expectoration. The lips were livid, and the forehead was bedewed with cold moisture. I sounded the chest to ascertain whether any effusion of serum had taken place, and satisfied myself that such was not the case. As to the pulse, no great assistance could be derived from it in forming a sound opinion; for it beat at all rates, and from the most wiry, up to the most thumping tone of vibration, in the course of two or three minutes. What appeared to produce a greater degree of anguish to Madame —, in this state, was the excessive oppression she felt in the chest generally, coupled with a very short, and almost spasmodic respiration. It should be remarked that the blood abstracted exhibited no signs of inflammation.

There could not have been a more favourable case for the employment of an instantaneous counter-irritant than this. Every medical man would have deemed a blister, under such circumstances, the very ideal of a remedy of the moment, and would have looked to its beneficial effect, produced in six or seven hours, for a favourable solution of the painful state of the chest. I thought and felt just so; but being desirous of obtaining such a result in the shortest period of time possible, and knowing that I had it in my power to effect that purpose by means of an antidyous counter-irritating lotion, I directed it to be applied to the chest, of a sufficient strength to produce vesication. This was obtained in a little more time than seven minutes, when a most copious discharge of serum took place, from an accidental rupture of the cuticle, and the oppression, as well as the pain in the chest, disappeared. The recovery after that went on its regular course. This case strongly marks the great advantage of being able to produce an instantaneous blister.

CASE XXXI.

Spasmodic seizure at the chest, similar to the preceding, during an attack of influenza.

Lieutenant H—, of the — regiment of foot, about a year before he entered the army (1836) and while still residing in his father's house, was labouring under a severe attack of influenza, accompanied by fever, which at one time ran very high. He had been confined to his bed a few days, when suddenly one night he woke with a tremendous and overpowering weight upon his chest, gasping for breath, and endeavouring to call out for assistance. His mother, who had been watching in the adjoining room, was at his bedside in an instant; and finding him in the

state just described, and learning from him that he was also then suffering from great pain under the breast-bone, she proposed to apply a compress over the chest, with the anodyne lotion, which I had directed the previous day should be in readiness in case of a blister being required. This precaution had been rendered necessary, not only on account of what might be expected in a complaint of this kind, but also because the patient lived at the distance of two miles from London, and could not get immediate medical assistance if necessary. A compress, quite saturated with the liquid, was accordingly applied; and I learned the next day, from the mother of the patient, that the effect in relieving the oppressive symptoms was almost magical—so much so, that when she offered to remove the application after ten minutes, the patient, who had expressed in that time great delight at the sensations produced by it, requested it might be suffered to remain on until the compress was quite dry. He very soon afterwards recovered from the influenza, in a most satisfactory manner.

8. *Nervous Headaches.*

Who has not suffered at some period or other of his life from nervous headache? Can there be, of the minor ailments that afflict mankind, a more worrying and disabling indisposition? It is one for which the sufferer scarcely obtains even pity; one to which physicians seldom condescend to pay any attention, except as it may constitute a symptom of some other serious disease; one, in fine, for the removal of which either a thousand remedies are propounded by officious acquaintances (as in the case of toothache,) which are good for naught, or else none is recommended except patience. The main reason of all this is, that a nervous headache generally ends of itself in the course of twenty-four hours, including a night, during which most of the sufferers from it contrive to sleep over their pain; and that, therefore, unless a something be found to shorten very considerably even that limited measure of suffering, it is never likely that the majority of patients will submit to a regular succession of pills, and draughts, and drugs innumerable, however skilfully prescribed, for the removal of that which “to-morrow” will cure without them. I think one may venture to assert, that what are called “genuine nervous headaches” are as much the opprobrium of the medical art as gout is, or any other disease not yet sufficiently mastered by physicians; and that the man who shall establish on good evidence a claim to having shortened the duration of these headaches, by some simple and not injurious method, will deserve and obtain the thanks of the community. That many attempts have been made, from time to time, to accomplish so desirable an object, is a fact which the history of medicine vouches for, and

which the domestic history of almost every family can assert. But have those attempts been of avail to the sufferers? If they had, we should not every day hear of the many persons of both sexes who suffer under that complaint. What is wished for, in the case of such headaches as are here referred to, is as easy and as ready a method of removing them as the dentist possesses, who, with the tooth, snatches the toothache also away. His cure is as rapid as it is effectual. Might not we hope to be equally rapid and effectual in the cure of nervous headaches, although there be nothing tangible to remove in their case?

We may find a tolerably presumptive proof that nervous headaches are generally prevalent, in the readiness with which every body seems to know what is meant by that term. It would, indeed, be impossible to define them very distinctly, even were it necessary to do so for the information of the reader; for a nervous headache may exist alone, and be its own creator; or it may be the consequence of another disease, through sympathy or continuity; or it may be allied to and mixed up with a bilious headache—another of the cephalic family of complaints well known to the vulgar. Well, then, how is it possible to state in plain language the way to discriminate between the one and the other, except by saying that a nervous headache is that which is neither a bilious headache, nor one arising from fulness of blood in the head?

Such a headache, then, if the reader can comprehend my meaning, is that which, by means of an instantaneous counter-irritant, I proposed to myself to disperse, as quickly as I have shown it possible to do in disorders of the nerves of a spasmodic character. Indeed, it may be asserted with confidence, that of the whole range of disorders mastered by the antidyne externally applied, none has shown itself more obedient to this agency than what is termed a nervous headache. I might in fact state freely, as well as truly, that if the beneficent action of the antidynous counter-irritants had not been forcibly and sufficiently pointed out in the cases of serious nervous disorders already enumerated, the result of my experience with those agents in the cure, or more properly speaking, in the *dispersion*, of nervous headaches, would alone warrant the conclusion that they are endowed with a power which no other external application possesses. But the most marvellous part of their history, in reference to the complaint under consideration, is the almost instantaneous mode in which they cure that complaint. It is not very unusual for me to see, among such patients as attend me in the morning at my house, labouring under a paroxysm of nervous headache, however acute, three out of four of them leave my study perfectly free from the disease, after a single application of the antidyne, either to the temple or temples, the forehead, the

nape of the neck, or behind the ears, according as the case may require. To this we must add the facility with which the patients themselves, who happen to be periodically subject to such a disorder, can apply the remedy, and immediately obtain relief, after one or two applications made by the medical practitioner in the first instance ; so that all further attendance from him may be dispensed with.

These several assertions I shall proceed to substantiate by examples of nervous headache cured in the manner alluded to ; and I shall only vary so far from the plan I have hitherto pursued, in narrating the medical cases in this volume, that I shall not give the cases in detail—inasmuch as the nature of the complaint admits of none ; it being often as sudden in its coming on, as it is brief in duration.

CASE XXXIII.

A noble earl, not more conspicuous for his station in society—which he has, through a long career, enhanced by great public and private worth—than proverbially known for being at one time the victim of the severest form of nervous headache, has, on three or four different occasions within the last twenty years, been under my care for that complaint. No doubt existed in his case that the origin of the headache was to be found in a deranged state of the digestive organs, and the treatment therefore had invariably been directed to restore those organs to a healthy action by remedies, and still more so by strict diet. Yet the positive bodily pain in the head, during the paroxysm, maintained its ground, even while the treatment was in progress, and after the general disorder had greatly abated ; nor could any prompt means be found to alleviate or disperse that pain, although most of the usual external applications generally recommended in such cases were resorted to for that purpose. It is to be understood, that during the paroxysm, which would often last two and even three days, such was the degree of pain, that the patient could only live in some degree of ease by remaining confined to his bed, in a dark room, for the whole period. About a twelvemonth back I happened to be again the attending physician on his lordship, for an attack of disturbed digestion, accompanied by sympathetic and rheumatic pains in the lower extremities and across the pit of the stomach, as well as by swelling of the legs. Diet, simple but effective aperients, and the use of mineral waters, gradually and somewhat promptly restored the general health ; but the tendency to headache remained, though it occurred now but rarely ; and when it prevailed, the patient suffered agonies as keen as if his general health had not been restored. On one of these occasions, being the 24th of May, 1835, I happened to find his lordship so ill with it, that he would hardly allow me to

open the shutters of the room, for the purpose of examining his tongue and his countenance. This was the first attack for nearly three months since I had been in attendance: and, according to former experience, my patient expected to be confined to his room by it for three days at least. Anxious to relieve him from so much suffering, I brought to his lordship's recollection my success in quickly subduing nervous headaches, by the application of the antidynous lotion, in several of his own acquaintances, and in the case also of his own brother; and I begged to be allowed to use the same in his case. Permission being granted for the application, it was immediately carried into effect; and I have only to add a few words more, for the purpose of stating that the patient soon after got up to take his coffee with his family in the drawing-room, being then entirely free from headache—and that I so found him the next day.

CASE XXXIV.

The Right Honourable R—— —, who at one time occupied a distinguished post in the councils of his sovereign, and, deservedly so, in the estimation of his countrymen, was and had all his life been subject to nervous headaches of the worst description, which disabled him from doing any business, and confined him for two or three days together, and sometimes longer, to his room. During my attendance on his lady, upwards of fifteen years ago, and also on his daughter, I had had ample opportunities of witnessing in this gentleman this species of nervous paroxysm of pain in the head; and lamented, in common with the rest of the faculty he had consulted, that art could offer no remedy but patience for such sufferings. Here, again, the stomach was at fault, and it must be admitted that the patient's diet was also at fault *vis-à-vis* his stomach. But even when both these defects had been set to rights, and reconciled by a proper treatment, the consecutive nervous suffering would still go on, and appear altogether unmitigated.

The frequency of these headaches had compelled him at last to retire from the more active and conspicuous duties of public life, though not so entirely but that he would, when not disabled by his periodical enemy, which visited him two and sometimes three times a month, attend in his place in the house of commons. On one occasion (1830,) it became particularly desirable that he should attend, in consequence of an expected division of great importance,—one of those powerful struggles, or trials of strength, which occurred in the hot days of approaching reform. A single vote was then of importance; yet that vote my patient felt perfectly incapable of going down to give, in consequence of labouring at the time under one of his worse paroxysms of nervous headache. I had often suggested to him, when under similar visita-

tions, to make trial of the antidynous lotion of which he had heard ; but he had always resisted it, under the apprehension of having a blister. On the occasion alluded to, however, the urgency of the political interest at stake, and the anxiety of his political friends, induced him to forego all such apprehensions ; and accordingly I received, at two o'clock in the afternoon, from Grosvenor square, the following summons :—"Mr. ——— acquaints Dr. Granville, that the access of pain in the head is bad enough to make him wish to try the experiment, if Dr. Granville happens to be disengaged, and can call upon him immediately." At four o'clock I was with him in his dark room, where he was lying suffering to a degree scarcely to be described. I applied a compress on both temples, saturated with a moderately strong antidynous lotion. In three minutes and a half the pain had considerably abated in front and over the eye, but the back part of the head was still suffering. I next laid a compress on the nape of the neck, and in five minutes the pain was equally dislodged from that quarter. At five o'clock of the same afternoon, Mr. R——— mounted his horse, and went down to the House, and was present at a very late division, without suffering any inconvenience.

CASE XXXV.

The lady of a wealthy baronet, member for one of the western counties, had been, during the space of three or four years, labouring under a severe affection of the mesentery, which had induced considerable atrophy of the body and general weakness. For this complaint my attendance was required, and in the course of three months, by dint of the strictest diet, and some trifling alteratives, the general health, and withal the appetite and the power of digesting food, were restored (1833.) Along with the general derangement of the system, however, which had existed before, there had always been present a great tendency to acute nervous headaches, not manifestly dependent on, nor influenced by, to any great degree, the varying condition of the digestive organs. These I proposed to cure by the antidynous lotions, and the result of them was to the utmost degree successful. Not only was the first headache for which they were made use of instantly relieved, but every succeeding attempt of the complaint to return was as instantaneously checked, by the same means, resorted to by the patient herself,—until at last a headache of the same sort became in her ladyship's case a rare occurrence.

CASE XXXVI.

Such was the confidence which the patient mentioned in the preceding case acquired, in the virtues of the antidync for the cure of nervous headaches, that she undertook to treat, with

their aid, all such cases as came within her reach, either in her own family or among her friends. The first trial she made was with Miss —, her daughter's governess, who from close attention to her duties, and equally close confinement, had made herself liable to frequent paroxysms of nervous headache, principally in the temples. In one of these Lady — applied the lotion I had prescribed for her general use, and in three minutes the headache was dispersed, though a blister was formed at the same time.

CASE XXXVI.

The success in the one case induced the same lady to recommend the antidyne to a friend who was staying on a visit at her house in town in 1833, and who, after having prepared herself one day for the drawing room at St. James's, found herself so ill, from a severe nervous headache which came on after an hour's toilet under the hands of Isidore, that she had decided on foregoing the pleasure of appearing at court. However, her hostess prevailed on her to try the effect of a small compress on each temple, saturated with the lotion, as in that place the plat of hair as worn in modern days, would conceal any redness or slight vesication which might follow the application. Mrs. P——, the sufferer, consented, and the result was of the most satisfactory description. The headache disappeared and no vesication followed. Lady — has very lately assured me, that while residing in the country, in a populous district in Devonshire, she has often had occasion to test the power of the lotion in nervous headache, and that the application has always maintained its character, as being the quickest and surest mode of curing that disorder.

CASE XXXVIII.

Miss V—— P——, since married, was attacked one day (21st of May, 1830,) with a most intense, and as she called it, intolerable nervous headache, which had lasted a whole day when my attendance was required. The eyebrows were the principal seat of the pain, but even the eye-balls, when pressed by the finger, felt sore. She could neither bear daylight nor candlelight. I applied at once a large compress with the antidynous lotion on the nape of the neck, and kept it on for nine minutes and a half, without the slightest appearance of a blister. At the expiration of that time the headache was completely gone, and did not return.

CASE XXXIX.

A young woman aged 15, servant to a lady whose case of lumbago, cured by antidynes, will be detailed hereafter, was subject to acute and frequent headaches, which disabled her from doing

any work. She used to awake with it, and on that day she seldom could leave her room. The pains, at times, were so acute, that it seemed for a moment to affect her senses, and her mistress used to notice that she gave occasional unapt and incoherent answers when labouring under a severe paroxysm of the complaint. Encouraged by my recommendation of the lotions, as the means best calculated to disperse quickly and effectually all nervous headaches, and also bearing in mind the example of her own recovery from an attack of lumbago, Mrs. R—— treated her maid Eliza Grantham in the same manner, whenever she was afflicted by headache, and on each occasion put a stop to it at once by the counter-irritating application.

CASE XL.

Mrs. Applegarth, of York street, Bryantson square, after the death of her husband, whom she had incessantly attended during a protracted illness, which ended in consumption,—became seriously indisposed, and suffered, among other distressing symptoms, from intense nervous headache, principally situated at the top of the head, and occasionally extending to the ball of the eyes. I have repeatedly seen her in attacks of this kind, in the course of the last three years; and on each occasion the headache, which, when left to itself, always lasted upwards of twenty-four hours, was entirely removed within scarcely as many minutes by the antidyne counter-irritant.

9.—*Odontalgia, or highly painful Toothache.*

This complaint (for it is one notwithstanding its homeliness) is too well known to require any preliminary remarks. I observed in another place that almost every body thinks himself in the possession of a sure remedy against toothache, which he will recommend to others, though he take care not to use it himself. There is not another complaint in the whole catalogue that calls forth with greater certainty the spontaneous offer of an infallible specific from an officious friend. Henry Quatre, in one of his joyous moods, laid a wager with a favourite courtier, that he would, in the course of two hours, convict almost every one connected with the court of quackery. He tied up his cheek in a scarf, and held a pocket handkerchief to his mouth; and in this state he appeared in the royal apartment, to receive his courtiers, or wandered through the long and frequented galleries of his palace. Every one who had the honour to approach the Bearnois king, enquired about his health, and immediately propounded a specific for the pain under which the sovereign was supposed to be labouring; and thus, in the course of two hours, his majesty

collected fifty receipts for the complaint for which I am about to offer only one, and gained his wager.

CASE XLII.

On the 19th of January, having received an invitation to dine a few miles out of town, with a nobleman whose lady I had then the honour of attending, as well as his only son,—I arrived a few minutes before the time appointed, when I found Viscountess —— in the drawing-room dressed for dinner, but suffering from such exquisite pain in one of the teeth of the lower jaw, on the left side of the face, that she was about to retire, intending not to join the family at dinner. The pain affected the ear, the whole cheek, and extended into the orbit of the eye. It had first come on soon after breakfast, and had not only continued, but had kept increasing in violence, during the period that had elapsed between the morning repast and dinner-time. Fortunately there was in the house a bottle of the antidynous lotion (which should be kept by every one) which her ladyship kept in case of requiring an instantaneous blister for some sudden attack of inflammation, for which she might not be able to procure immediate medical aid at that distance from town; and I urged her to permit me to use it for the removal of her toothache; as I felt convinced that by that means she would yet be enabled to sit down to dinner with sufficient comfort. Upon her consenting, a compress, saturated with the lotion, was applied to the under part of the lower jaw of the side affected, and kept in that position for a minute and a half by the watch—the intention being, if possible, to prevent the formation of a blister. The pain went away immediately, and her ladyship remained free from it that evening, and all the rest of the night. When Lord ——, who, at that time, occupied a ministerial station of great importance, returned from town to dinner, he learned at one and the same time the history of his lady's acute sufferings for several hours during his absence, and the instantaneous cure of them immediately after my arrival.

CASE XLII.

A lady, living as attendant and reader with a patient of mine much advanced in years, in the neighbourhood of Park lane, had heard me recommend, in the course of conversation, the application of a counter-irritating lotion, as an excellent and generally certain remedy for acute toothache. One day in the month of August, 1837, being herself attacked with that highly painful complaint, which had prevented her from sleeping for two nights, and had entirely taken away her inclination for food, she recollected my recommendation, and knowing that a small quantity of the antidynous lotion, which had successfully served to remove a

paroxysm of spasm in the back of Lady —, with whom she was living, was still left in the house, proceeded to use it in the way she had seen me use it before. The result was that she stopped the pain in the tooth immediately. This occurred during my short temporary absence from town. On my return, Mrs. G——d not only informed me of this fact, but also that she had cured in the same manner, and of a similar highly painful attack of toothache, the cook and two servant-maids in the hours.

CASE XLIV.

A young lady, formerly governess to my eldest daughter, was staying on a visit at my house in April last, when, after an accidental exposure to one of those dreadful cold easterly winds which had so greatly prevailed during the winter, she was one morning seized with a most excruciating pain in one of her teeth in the upper jaw, which kept increasing during the day, and kept her awake the whole of the night. On the following morning, unable to bear the pain any longer, she meditated proceeding to some dentist, to have the tooth removed, as she knew it to be partly decayed. She was, however, prevented from doing it by the ladies of the family, who suggested the use of the antidynous lotion, with the virtues of which they were all well acquainted. A bottle of one of those applications was consequently procured from my room, and a small quantity conveyed to the affected tooth and surrounding gum. The toothache almost immediately ceased. Threatening, however, to return in the evening, the application was repeated, externally as well as internally, when all further suffering was suspended, and to this moment no fresh attack of toothache has taken place.

SECTION II.

CASES IN WHICH THE MUSCULAR SYSTEM AND THE TENDINOUS TISSUES WERE PRINCIPALLY AFFECTED.

1. RHEUMATISM. { Acute.
 Chronic.

CASE XLV.

Acute Rheumatism, the pain shifting from one joint to another.

This was the case of a lady residing at Highbury Grove, Islington, who was attacked with acute rheumatism, four weeks and three days after her confinement, in consequence of exposure to a cold and damp atmosphere, on the day she went out of her house to be "churched." I did not see the patient for two days after the attack; as it was hoped that rest, and the promotion of

perspiration, would soon remove the complaint. The lady was at the time nursing. Upon the joints of the shoulders, elbows, and wrists, however, becoming permanently more painful, and the parts swelling, I was desired to pay a visit to the patient, at which I prescribed the usual remedies employed in such cases. It was hoped that the disorder would not exceed two or three days, as the pulse and other symptoms seemed to indicate a mild form of acute rheumatism. At the same time I left directions that if the pain in the joint already affected increased, or if it shifted suddenly to another part, the antidynous counter-irritating lotion should instantly be applied to such parts, with a view of quickly extinguishing the pain. It appears from my notes taken at the time, that even the moderate pain then existing had affected the milk, and had consequently disturbed the health of the child. This occurred on Wednesday, the 4th of August, 1830. On the succeeding Friday I received the following written message, as I had been prevented from driving out to Islington the day before to see my patient: "The pain I was complaining of when you saw me, still continuing very severe, and being rather on the increase, and it having yesterday communicated itself to my hip and knee, as well as to my shoulder again, I have been unable to lie down in bed all night; for whenever I attempted so to do, the pain was so violent that I could not draw my breath at all, and it seemed to shoot from the hip to the shoulder, through my breast. This being the case, Mr. — (her husband) considered it advisable to follow your direction, and applied the counter-irritating lotion by means of a compress, first to the hip-joint, next to the shoulder, and lastly to the knee; on all which places it was suffered to remain pressed down by the hand, from three to five minutes. At the expiration of that time the pain had quite vanished, and I could breathe freely. On the hip it has left a slight blister, which teases me, and I shall therefore be obliged to you to call at your earliest convenience. But I am too thankful, even with it, to have got rid of my torments so quickly, and at so cheap a rate," &c. &c.

CASE XLVI.

Acute Rheumatism of the right thigh, from the hip downwards.

Macintosh, a man-servant of a particular friend of mine, residing at Stanley Grove, had been for several days in August, 1830, labouring under a most excruciating rheumatic pain, from the right hip down to the calf of the right leg, which had induced fever, sleeplessness, and a total want of appetite. This person had been addicted to free drinking, and had injured his health to such a degree, that consumption followed, which in a year or two after the period here alluded to, caused his death. On the occasion in question, it being essential that he should, as soon as possible,

be made fit for duty, and freed from the acute pain under which he was suffering, a large compress, saturated with a moderately strong antidynous lotion, was applied to the hip, and a smaller one to the knee, in both which places they were retained by bandages until they were dry. At the end of a quarter of an hour there was found a blister on the hip, but none on the knee, and no more pain existed. The patient, who for three days had been hardly able to walk from the outer offices to the house with the view of being examined by me, walked up to town two days afterwards, to thank me for his recovery.

CASE XLVII.

Acute Rheumatism in the arm.

The gentleman alluded to as being the master of the patient, mentioned in the preceding case, was attacked with a rheumatic pain in the arm, in the first week of November, 1830. On the 12th of that month his lady, who had witnessed the immediate recovery of Macintosh, wrote to me to request I would desire the chemist to send her the antidyne (which she styled invaluable,) with a view of applying it to the arm of Mr. —, for the removal of his rheumatism. The request being complied with, the lotion was applied, and the pain immediately removed.

The same gentleman, writing to me on the 26th of June, 1835, from Scotland, where he was staying on a visit to a noble earl, well known as a most efficient promoter of the fine arts, announced, in the following brief lines, another instance of the efficacy of the antidynous lotion, in curing rheumatism, at the same time that it had proved inefficacious in organic tic douloureux: "I wish I could tell you that the prescription of your counter-irritating lotion had been of use to Lord —, by alleviating his dreadful sufferings from tic; but as it has just cured him of an *attack of rheumatism*, I hope he may derive further benefit from it," &c. Whether the nobleman here alluded to did or did not derive any benefit from the counter-irritant proposed, I never made it my business to enquire, as his lordship was not my patient. From the knowledge I had of the nature of his case, considering the attacks of tic douloureux to be dependent on organic mischief, I could not expect, nor have I in any other similar case anticipated, any material or permanent advantage from the employment of a counter-irritant.

CASE XLVIII.

Acute Rheumatism of the left knee.

The husband of the woman who kept the first lodge at Nocton where I was staying on a professional visit to its noble proprietor, in October, 1833, was attacked with acute rheumatism in

the left knee, which in the course of twenty-four hours swelled to a considerable degree in the inside, and became so painful, that he neither could lift up the leg, nor allow it to be touched for the purpose of its being lifted off the bed, without suffering excruciating tortures. Having found him in this state, when I visited him immediately after I had been apprised of the case, and observing that considerable febrile disturbance of the system prevailed at the same time, I ordered some calomel, with opium, and James' powder, at bed-time, and a diaphoretic mixture throughout the night, as well as an effectual aperient draught in the morning. The constitution and make of the patient appeared very robust. Before the evening had arrived, the pain had become considerably worse. On the following morning, the medicine having produced all the effect that could be desired, the attack, particularly the pain of it, seemed to have subsided.—There was but little fever left, and the general surface of the body was in a state of complete perspiration. The affected leg, nevertheless, continued exquisitely tender to the touch, the knee still swollen on both sides, and the part felt to the touch as if within there was fluctuation. The diaphoretic mixture was ordered to be repeated through the day ; but in the afternoon the patient got again much worse with regard to local suffering, and my attendance was consequently requested. Thinking it important to endeavour to stop the pain at once, and thus secure to the poor fellow a quiet night ; and on the other hand, knowing that unless the increasing irritation kept up by the painful affection of the knee-joint was abated, rheumatic fever would be set up, and the case become troublesome, I at once enveloped the knee in a large compress saturated with the antidyne, and determined on leaving it on all night, tied down by a suitable bandage. I remained with the patient during the first ten or fifteen minutes of the application, which smarted greatly, and made the patient exclaim, that he felt "as if the knee was on fire." After the first five minutes had elapsed, he begged to have the application removed, and would have torn it off, had it not been well secured ; but at the expiration of a quarter of an hour, not only had the painful sensation produced by the lotion nearly ceased, but the rheumatic pain also ; and I understood afterwards that both ceased altogether before eight o'clock in the evening, when the patient fell into a profound sleep, and passed a quiet night.

Next morning he was surprised to find that he could move his limb, and when I visited him after breakfast, I found him in his little parlour, having walked down stairs from his bed-room without pain or inconvenience. On examining the part, a very large bladder, yet intact, containing a prodigious quantity of serum, was found to surround the sides and back part of the knee.—This vesication broke in the course of the day, and the blister

continued to run the whole of that day and the next, when it dried up, and the patient resumed his labours, perfectly recovered. Thus in forty-eight hours a very formidable attack of acute rheumatism in so delicate a part as the knee was put an end to.

CASE XLIX.

Chronic Rheumatism (Sciatica) of the left thigh.

The Rev. —, chaplain to one of the principal foreign embassies in London, of robust constitution, but subject to regular attacks of gout, to lumbago also, and to rheumatism, aged seventy years and upwards, requested my attendance on the evening of the 2d of October, 1830, in consequence of an attack of excruciating pain, beginning in the sciatic notch, and extending along the sciatic nerve of the left thigh. He was not in any other respect unwell; but he suffered so much from pain, that he could not sleep at night, neither could he walk in the day without the help of a crutch. On the day I saw him, and the following, some of the usual remedies prescribed in such cases were ordered, without however alleviating the pain in the smallest degree.—The antidynous lotion was at last applied, and the pain went away in half an hour; so that not only could the Rev. —, move the limb freely after that time without the slightest uneasiness, but he was able to walk without the crutch. The pain never returned.

CASE L.

Chronic and wandering Rheumatic affection throughout the body.

J. K—, Esq., residing, in the year 1832, in Grosvenor street, had been subject for some years to acute, short, and piercing pains, in almost every part of the body, particularly the limbs, their several articulations, and at times in the muscles of the head, the chest, the back, and the abdomen, upon the slightest exposure to damp air. These several places were, on some days, when he laboured under the severest form of his attacks, visited all in succession; but very seldom indeed any two or three of them together. There was no fever at the time, nor swelling of the part, but tenderness when it was touched. The frequency of these attacks, and the length of time during which the pains lasted, without sensible mitigation from any remedy that had been suggested, had induced such a state of irritability in the system, that Mr. K— was become what is termed a “nervous subject,” and he had lost flesh considerably. Having heard from a friend, whom I had relieved of rheumatic pain by the antidyne, of the decided beneficial effects it had had upon him, Mr. K— applied to me for advice. I did not hesitate a moment, after hear-

ing his statement, to recommend the application of the same external remedy, wherever he suffered pain; and in three days I had the satisfaction of seeing him again at my house, to report not only that he was himself completely cured of his pains, but that he wished to try the same remedy on his mother, who had laboured for some weeks under nearly similar symptoms. In due time I learned that this lady, like her son, had found an immediate and effectual relief, in the external application recommended.

2.—*Lumbago.*

CASE LIII.

Severe Lumbago and Sciatica.

The butler of the Right Hon. Sir G———, a tall, strong-made man, though spare of flesh, after enduring for several days the most acute pain in the loins, which had of late extended along the sciatic nerve, so as to involve in one accumulated mass of suffering the whole of the muscles of the loins, as well as the muscles covering the left iliac and sciatic region, and those of the upper and posterior part of the thigh (in consequence of which he had not been able, during that time, to move from his bed,) requested my attendance on Thursday night, the 11th of March, 1830—his agony having then become insufferable. The slightest movement augmented the pain to a degree scarcely to be credited, and induced nausea and shortness of breath. He had been subject to attacks of gout; of one of which he had indeed, at the time, something like an active indication in the great toe of the same side,—for it was red and rather painful.

For the present complaint every means to which medical art has recourse for its cure had been adopted, but without the smallest success. He had been treated generally as well as topically, yet without deriving even the most trifling alleviation of pain. Under such circumstances I had no other resource to offer but the antidynous counter-irritant,—which I applied myself, immediately to the sciatic notch, and a smaller compress also, with some of the same liquid diluted, to the inflamed toe. The applications were bandaged tightly on, and were to remain so all night. On the following day I learned that in twenty minutes from the time of my leaving the patient the lumbar and sciatic pain had completely ceased, and that he had slept all night. Vesication had taken place, and a very abundant discharge of an exceedingly ex-coriating serum had followed, in consequence of which the subsequent healing of the surface became somewhat troublesome and tedious. At this visit the patient assured me that he was quite well with the exception of the toe, which looked very red and

swollen, and presented all the appearances of genuine gout. On the third day, Saturday, this as well as every symptom of sciatica, had disappeared, and the patient began to walk about the house-keeper's room. Eight years have elapsed since, and this person, who is still in the same service, has never experienced an attack of the same kind.

CASE LIV.

Lumbago consequent on exposure to cold and rain.

Mrs. R——, a lady about twenty-two years of age, susceptible of cold, and subject to inflammatory complaints, after a long drive from Barnet in the night of the 5th of July, 1835, in an open gig, during a storm of rain and wind, which blew all the way upon her back, was seized in the night with shivering, general soreness of the limbs, and fever, which induced her husband to call up a medical gentleman near him, in the vicinity of Bryanston square. In the morning, when this lady attempted to sit up in bed, she found it impracticable, and felt as if she were nailed down to the mattress. The slightest effort at a movement produced an agony of pain. In this manner the day was passed, during which the remedies prescribed had caused an abatement of the fever and general indisposition, but had made no impression on the local affection. At night the latter became much exasperated, notwithstanding the application of warm flannels and warm fomentations. Lying immovably flat on the back, which had hitherto been the only position of comparative comfort, became now irksome, and with some difficulty Mrs. R—— was turned on her right side. Cupping was proposed, and even bleeding at the arm, but the patient resisted both, and at the suggestion of her husband assented rather to my being sent for. The written message enabled me to go prepared with the antidyne; and on my applying the same to the whole of the loins, pressing down the application by means of a long towel fastened round the body, the acute suffering ceased at the expiration of eleven minutes, according to the statement of the husband, who held the watch. A partial vesication ensued almost immediately; but the patient, soon after I left the house, fell into a profound sleep, and the next morning was able to leave her bed, and come down stairs into the withdrawing room, where I found her.

3.—*Swelled and highly painful Articulations not dependent on Rheumatism.*

CASE LIX.

Accidental injury of the knee, producing a painful and swelled state of the joint.

While I was staying for a few weeks at Nocton, in the autumn of 1832, the private secretary of the Earl of —— (now Sir Charles D——,) injured his knee very considerably, by hitting it against the stake of a stile while out shooting. By the evening of the same day the knee had become so painful and stiff, that on getting up from dinner, and later still, upon going up to his room, he walked quite lame, and seemed to suffer much. I was requested to look at the knee (it was the right knee,) when I found it considerably swollen, painful to the touch, very hot, and bearing marks of bruises on the inside, and all round the inner margin of the patella, or knee-cap. I applied immediately a rag with some of the antidynous lotion. In five minutes it had produced a blister; but as my object was, if possible, to subdue the swelling at once, knowing well from experience, that if the swelling increased further, or continued long even in its present state, it would be difficult to reduce it, I left the rag upon the part for the whole night. Next morning the swelling had completely subsided, the heat of the part was gone, as was also the soreness, except indeed when considerable pressure was made with the fingers on one or two spots of the inner edge of the knee-cap. There was also a large blister quite intact, and full of a fluid, which was partly gelatinous. This I let out, and the vesication was dressed as usual. In six days from the accident the knee got quite well, although the injury sustained by the soft parts, where the bruises had been received, proved so great as to cause a sloughing of them in the course of that time. To all appearance this accident, treated in the usual manner by leeches, and some cold evaporating lotion, would have proved long, tedious, and troublesome.

CASE LX.

Painful strain of the knee from violent exercise.

Captain R——s, of the Royal Navy, was enjoying, with myself, the hospitality of Mrs. Lawrence, at her magnificent seat, Studley, in September, 1830; when, after two days' shooting on the moors, in the course of which he walked over several miles of ground, one of his knees became stiff, hot, and highly painful, and he was soon disabled from again joining in that sport. Captain R—— had annually been subject to precisely the same affection, and from the same cause, on the first days of the sport; and on each occasion the inflammation of the knees had run very

high,—as it threatened indeed to do in the present instance. Before bedtime of the same day the part had swollen considerably, the knee looking twice its natural size. The skin was tense, but on pressure one might fancy that a large quantity of fluid was collected within. There was no visible discoloration of the part, the temperature was several degrees higher than natural, and the joints felt so stiff as well as painful, that the patient could not attempt the slightest movement without crying out. I shall now quote the notes I took of the case at the time—premising that, being aware, from previous experience (Cases LVIII. and LIX.) how speedily such accidental inflammatory affections of the joints, particularly of the knee, gave way to the antidynous counter-irritant, I proposed to the captain to treat his case with that preparation; to which he had assented.

“October 7, I applied twice to the knee of Captain R—, which was hot, painful, much swelled, and prevented him from walking, an antidynous lotion, and left it on for three minutes, after which the rag, still damp, was replaced and suffered to remain. It improved the part, took off a large proportion of the heat in it, but raised no blister, nor affected the pain. I repeated this morning (Oct. 8) the application. It occasioned much more smarting than before, but excited no blister, and scarcely touched the pain. In the evening, however, the knee was quieter, considerably reduced in size, so as to appear almost natural, and its temperature lowered to the proper standard. Captain R— seems quite astonished at the total freedom from any uneasiness in the part, which he has attained in so short a time. He states that on a former occasion, the knee, having become similarly affected from the same cause, while on a visit to his relative at Studley, he was confined by it during a fortnight, under the ordinary treatment.

“Oct. 9. The captain's knee is so perfectly well that he escorted me on foot through the various mazes of this enchanting spot,” &c.

SECTION III.

CASES IN WHICH THE CIRCULATION IS PRINCIPALLY AFFECTED.

We have hitherto ranged over the principal and most important disorders of the human frame, affecting the nervous, the muscular, and the tendinous system, which the plan of external treatment I am advocating has fully succeeded in curing, when they were susceptible of cure, or has relieved more effectually than any other plan would have done, when relief only was to

be obtained. Of the sixty cases of such diseases, the history of which I have fully detailed, fifty-four belong to the class of those which have been completely cured, and six only have not been cured, but have received a large measure of relief beyond that which ordinary medicines had afforded before. Better evidence of the value and success of any plan of treatment cannot be desired. In the sections that are about to follow, the same train of evidence will be laid before the reader, who will find that the use of the antidyne has been equally, and even more uniformly successful in those complaints which are connected with the circulatory system, or the distribution of blood through the body; also in those which are of a mixed character; and lastly in those arising from accidents, hurts, or an ill-conditioned state of the skin.

1.—*Headache from fulness of Blood in the Head.*

CASE LXI.

Plethoric Headache from an overcharged stomach.

A lady whose case of nervous headache, cured by the antidyneous counter-irritants, has already been given (XXXV.,) and who has since been in the habit of using those agents in the cure of the same sort of headache among her friends, had, about five or six years ago, a governess in her family, who was much addicted to copious and fast eating, and who had become, in consequence, plethoric, and inclined to fulness of blood in the head. She had, as usual, one day in June, 1833, partaken largely of some wholesome animal food, when she was seized with giddiness, stupor, fulness of blood in the head, throbbing and acute pains in the temples and at the top of the head, in the direction of the great sinus. Her extremities, at the same time, had become colder even than usual, and her whole appearance alarmed the family. Being sent for, I found the patient, a lady about twenty-seven years of age, labouring under a positive surfeit, experiencing nausea, but not positively sick, and exhibiting all the tokens of pressure in the venous system of the brain. The pulse was wiry, and not very quick. She kept her hands on the top of her head, pressing the part with them, for relief from pain, which she assured me was more intense than she had ever before experienced. The course to be followed here was plain enough. To empty the stomach by an emetic would have been the most prompt and effectual mode of solving all difficulties; but then the turgid state of the veins in the head rendered that remedy an unsafe one,—at all events, one not free from risk. To bleed, on the other hand, with a full stomach, was not less hazardous; although a medical man would never hesitate to proceed to such an

operation, were he to be called to a case of indigestion from glutony, threatening the patient with a sudden attack of what the French practitioners have felicitously termed "stomach apoplexy." In the present instance I adopted the middle course, and applied large compresses saturated with an ordinary antidyous lotion on the nape of the neck, and behind the ears; while the insteps of both feet were surrounded by similar applications. In the course of ten minutes all cephalic symptoms—the pain, the giddiness, the sense of pressure—had completely subsided; at the same time that the feet became red and inflamed, and the temperature of the lower extremities was changed into one more equable and natural. Having waited about half an hour, to ascertain that no return of the embarrassment in the head took place, I directed a rather powerful emetic to be given, which I found, on my visit the following day, had brought away the entire mass of the dinner, cleared the intestinal canal, and restored the patient to her usual state of health. This accident was a good lesson to the young lady; but as it might also prove an improper one for her very young pupil, her services were soon afterwards dispensed with; so that I have never been able to learn whether she has, at any subsequent period, suffered from similar attacks.

CASE LXII.

Periodical plethoric Headache from a mal-distribution of blood.

Miss ———, one of several sisters, who had all more or less suffered, between the age of fifteen and two-and-twenty years, from the ill effects of an unequal distribution of blood, until after their marriage,—has experienced, as they had done before her, during the last four or five years, acute pain in the head every four weeks or so; the whole system at the same time becoming languid, prostrated, and disinclined to exertion of any kind. The head is the only part which on such occasions seems to be in a state of activity,—which is of such a painful nature, that the patient can neither speak nor bear to be spoken to; she shuns all association with her family—to whom she is warmly attached, and by whom she is in return as warmly beloved; and excluding all light from her apartment, is compelled to resign herself to a life of perfect inanition for many days together. The attacks were so numerous as well as severe four years ago, that leeches and the lancet were deemed absolutely necessary; and those measures did good; that is to say, they relieved each attack, at a considerable expense to the constitution, but exercised no beneficial influence in the prevention of their return. Being desirous three years ago to spare so prodigal and wasteful a remedy, I suggested the use of the antidyous lotion at the time the plethoric headache was most violent; and that remedy being applied to the temples

and forehead, as well as to the nape of the neck, the effect that resulted was precisely what I had anticipated, namely, a cessation of the pain at each of the applications, and the shortening of the usual period of the attack, from a week or ten days, to two, or at most three days. This has been the case on a great many occasions, and even as late as the months of March and April last.

CASE XLIII.

Congestive Headache of a periodical nature, probably dependent on indigestion.

I shall conclude the few cases of this complaint that I have purposely selected from among patients of every station in life (out of some hundred of which I have a classed register) with the narrative of one furnished me by a foreign ambassador, who, during a temporary leave of absence from his post in this country, and while travelling in Italy about three years ago, had occasion to use an antidynous counter-irritant of a moderate strength, the prescription of which I had given him at his departure from England. One of his valets having been reported to the nobleman in question as suffering greatly from intense headache, which prevented his attending to his duty,—a headache, too, said to be most aggravated by the intense heat of the weather at that season of the year (July), His Excellency desired to see the individual, and questioned him on the subject. It appeared that this was a periodical form of headache, which invariably made its appearance on each day as the sun rose in the east, and gradually subsided towards evening, until it vanished quite at sunset. The sufferings were said to be exceedingly acute, and such as to prostrate the patient to that degree, that he became almost powerless. Every means had been adopted by the physician of the family to get rid of this daily unwelcome intruder, but without success. Neither leeches nor ordinary blisters, nor evacuants, nor quinine, resorted to on the supposition that the complaint was aguish, had produced the slightest alteration in the complaint, or in its mode of action; and in that state the patient was when his master examined him. A fellow-servant, who had heard of the external remedy which their master had brought from England, and which was said to possess the power of curing pain in the head or any where else, earnestly solicited His Excellency to try it on the footman. A very able physician of the place being consulted by Count —, on the safety of using such a remedy in such a case, and that gentleman's opinion being favourable to the application of the lotion,—the same was put on the temporal region of the right side, without loss of time, and suffered to remain on for nearly a quarter of an hour, at the request of the patient himself, who held it fast, lest any body should remove it too soon. At the

end of that time a very large blister was formed, which discharged a prodigious quantity of serum, so acrid that it scorched the cheek and the whole surface of the arm, over which the serum drained during the deep sleep into which the patient had fallen a very few minutes after the embrocation had been applied. That sleep, by the by, was the first which he had enjoyed for several days during the progress of the disorder. And so far, therefore, the lulling of the nervous pain in the head by the action of the counter-irritant, proved the best soporific. The blister healed like an ordinary vesication; the pain in the head never returned; and the servant soon recovered his natural state of health.

2.—*Sudden attacks in the Head. Congestion of the Sinuses. Apoplexy.*

The examples of headaches from fulness of blood, just now adduced, will naturally lead my readers to expect that the same powerful external remedy which served to cure them would also prove highly beneficial in the more serious attacks of blood in the head, which constitutes so important and so fatal a class of disorders of the circulation. Such will be found indeed to be the case. I might bring forward a very large number of examples in support of the assertion; for the antidynous counter-irritants, from the instantaneity of their action, are the very agents best calculated to relieve the patient from danger, when something else is required besides the lancet; and my experience in such cases therefore has been very extensive. But I shall select three or four instances only, of individual benefit produced by the counter-irritants in question; in order to show of what a powerful auxiliary we deprive ourselves, if we neglect those external agents, in our endeavours to save the lives of our fellow men, when menaced by a formidable disorder such as is here contemplated.

CASE LXIV.

Case of venous congestion in the head producing convulsions.

A hasty messenger summoned me to a house in Seymour-place, May-fair, on the 22d of April, 1830, to see a child about five years old, of Mr. R——, who had been some days ill with a serious complaint in the head, for which he had received every possible assistance from Mr., now Sir Charles Clarke, and the attendant apothecary. Leeches had been applied in the morning of the day, to endeavour to relieve the young sufferer from a state of coma and pressure on the brain. While the bleeding was going on, it was observed by the nurse, and the watchful and anxious mother, that the child became more and more inanimate, his cheeks palid, his lips colourless, and the extremities cold. A

warm bath was instantly procured, and the child placed in it; the leech-bites were stopped, and the cold lotion removed from the head. Having done this the affrighted mother sent for the regular attendants, who had already paid their morning visit that day; but at the hour in question the principal of them was not to be found, in consequence of which my attendance had been requested. The child was in a state of collapse, and in the utmost danger. I encouraged the warm bathing as high up as the chest, making the water warmer. The bleeding from the bites of the leeches was arrested more effectually, and I made the child swallow a few drops of æther, followed by hot brandy and water. With a view to rouse the brain, I, at the same time, suggested the application of the antidynous lotion, which was sent for immediately from the nearest chemist, and applied over the head as a blister; the apothecary of the family joining me about this time in my attendance. Under the persevering use of these measures the infant finally rallied; and it was remarked that while the antidyne was on the head, and producing a rubefacient effect, the convulsive motions of the limbs, which had formed part of the original attack, ceased. At seven in the evening I revisited the little patient, who was then sitting up in a large bed, and very cheerful, saying he was quite well. On the following day I met Sir C. Clarke in consultation, who proposed that, as the pulse was full, more leeches should be employed. At half after three o'clock in the afternoon, however, having been again summoned alone to see the child, and finding him labouring under a fresh attack of convulsions, I proceeded to treat him in the same manner as the day before, and the patient once more rallied. In this course I had been encouraged by the candid opinion of my liberal-minded colleague, Sir C. Clarke, who had written to me after my first visit to the child, stating that "my measures had been very judicious;" and it is gratifying at all times to have in one's favour the testimony of a man of such high and well-merited reputation. The case, however, was one which, from the very first, had caused great and just apprehension; and the regular medical attendant, with all his vast experience and success, had never ventured to speak of the result with any degree of confidence. I agreed with him that the frequent repetitions of the attacks rendered the case imminently dangerous, and its unfortunate conclusion proved the correctness of that opinion. Upon examination, although no appearances of venous congestion were found in the brain, yet that it had existed, and had produced pressure enough to give rise to the attacks we had witnessed, and, consequently, to warrant the depleting measures adopted by Sir Charles, was evinced by the condition of the brain itself; as it was found to be in that state which the French have termed, "*ramollissement du cerveau*." The repeated bleeding had in

fact removed the venous congestion. I have related this case simply to prove the instantaneous advantage we may derive, at a season of imminent danger, from the application of the antidyne.

CASE LXVI.

Giddiness, with singing in the ears, and other distressing symptoms of fullness in the head.

Lady Augusta W——, from causes which it is unnecessary to enumerate, was seized one morning in May, 1831, with giddiness, which lasted from breakfast-time till late in the day, and made it quite unsafe for her to stand or walk alone. Some appropriate medicine was taken, which seemed to have produced a good effect. On the succeeding day but one,—her ladyship awoke with loud and incessant singing in the ears, which became quite distressing and lasted the whole day. On the morning of the fourth day, her walking was followed by the same symptoms, and she was again giddy on moving. In this unpleasant state she continued for nearly a week, when beginning to feel alarmed at the symptoms, she required the advice of her physician-accoucheur, who declined bleeding her, for particular reasons, but proposed her living low, and repeating the medicines she had already taken of her own accord. For three more days her ladyship bore the unmitigated symptoms of distress in her head; until at length, having accidentally heard of the good effect of the antidynous counter-irritants in all cases of fulness in the head, she desired my attendance. After having informed myself of all the preceding features of the case, I used the external application in question, and the sensation of giddiness, as well as the singing in the ears, completely disappeared in half an hour. The lotion was applied behind the ears and between the shoulders, and no blister followed.

3.—*Sore Throat. Inflamed Tonsils. Croup. Whooping Cough.*

In all these modifications of membranous, as well as substantial inflammation, blisters are well and generally known to be of infinite service. The more sudden and acute the attack, the greater the relief, and the more certain the recovery, provided blisters be applied immediately, and strong enough. But their agency, in all such cases, is really as nothing, compared with that of the antidyne. Indeed, it might be said with justice, that inasmuch as an ordinary blister takes, we will say, eight hours to produce its complete sanative effect through two or three stages of counter-irritation—whereas the antidynous lotion produces the same ef-

fect, through the same stages, in less than half an hour; it follows that their relative virtue, in the cure of the diseases under consideration, may fairly be stated as one to sixteen. This superiority, which will be seen fully exemplified in the history of the cases that follow, has been of immense advantage to me in practice, during the prevalence of sore throats that in so special a manner marked the two last winter seasons in London.

CASE LXX.

Sudden and severe inflammatory Sore Throat.

A gentleman connected with a banking establishment not many minutes walk from Whitehall, came to me from his residence near Portland place, on the 7th of July, 1835, complaining of sore throat. On examining the back of the mouth, I found that part highly inflamed, the right tonsil much enlarged, and deglutition difficult as well as painful. He had had the sore throat for two days, during which he had been advised to use gargles of port wine, hartshorn liniment, purgative medicines, &c. but without any benefit. The complaint on the contrary, had become at last so troublesome, that he determined on having my advice. I made the patient sit down and remove his cravat, after which I applied a compress with the antidynous lotion on the right anterior side of the neck, two inches one way by four inches the other. I held it fast on the part for two minutes, at the expiration of which time a full blister of the same dimension had risen, which throughout the day discharged very abundantly, and all vestige of the complaint was gone before the evening. From my house the patient went to his office to attend as usual to his occupations, and suffered no further inconvenience, though he complained much of the smarting of the blister.

CASE LXXI.

Acute and sudden Sore Throat.

Sir Charles D —, who had often consulted me on account of his health and that of his lady, and who was well acquainted with my notions and practice respecting sore throats, met me on the 13th of July, 1836, in the street, and informed me that on "the Friday previous, the 8th instant, he had suddenly awoke with a dreadful sore throat, so painful, and at the same time so choking, that he thought he was going to be suffocated. He instantly got up, applied a compress saturated with the antidynous lotion I had recommended to him on a previous occasion (Case LIX.) and went to bed again. It raised a blister in a moment; but he went to sleep notwithstanding, and upon awaking in the morning the throat was quite well."

4.—*Early Inflammation.*

OF THE BRONCHIA.

CASE LXXV.

Bronchitis, or bronchial inflammation, with loss of voice, and minute ulceration.

In this case the patient, an unmarried lady, the sister-in-law of an Irish baron, after a very severe attack of catarrh, lost her voice entirely, and began to complain of uneasiness in her throat. There was no difficulty of swallowing, no enlargement of the tonsils, nor any evidence of inflammation in the visible portion of the back part of the month. But on being made to draw in a deep inspiration through a small quill, a hectic cough was instantly set up, which sounded like the wind through a broken reed. Cough would also come on spontaneously, and very frequently through the day; and when, after a violent paroxysm, the patient attempted to speak, hardly a syllable of what she uttered could be heard at the distance of a few feet from her. At one time I succeeded, without exciting immediate coughing, in holding the tongue down with the handle of a spoon, and making her take a deep inspiration, so as to detect, near and about the glottis, a number of very minute spots, smaller than millet seeds, resembling ulcers. As every means suggested by an able country practitioner had been adopted before my arrival from London for the purpose of consultation, I had nothing left to propose but counter-irritation, with the view of overcoming in good time the morbid condition of the bronchia. Accordingly a lotion of that nature was prescribed, and ordered to be used for a few minutes every day; which having been done for the space of six weeks, the disorder was successfully conquered.

Of the Lungs or their membranes.

CASE LXXVII.

Incipient Pulmonic Consumption.

Miss Charlotte ———, a tall, young, and well made person, who had reached the age of twenty-four years, without any serious ailment, and who belonged to a family free from all hereditary disease, was attacked with an inflammatory complaint in the chest, while out of town, which confined her to the house the whole winter. In the following year a similar attack came on, which lasted somewhat longer, and was got rid in the same way as before. She had a third time a similar attack in the winter following, after which she found herself so much reduced that she was brought to London for consultation. The opinions given as

to her real state varied considerably; but from the complexion of them all, it was evident that incipient consumption of the lungs was the prevailing idea formed of her disorder, by almost all the physicians who had seen her. When it came to my turn, I found the evidence for such an opinion to be so strong, that it was impossible not to adopt it. I confirmed it therefore, though in a guarded way, by my own statement, and when I was asked what I should mostly rely upon to prevent the probable evil results that were anticipated, I replied "counter-irritation." I had at that moment two other patients, declared by all the faculty to be consumptive, who were deriving great benefit from counter-irritation: the one a young gentleman, who had a seton in the left breast; the other a man more advanced in years, who had on perpetual blisters. I could not therefore recommend any thing more promising than the plan of counter-irritation. For the common perpetual blister, however, I substituted the antidynous counter-irritant, one of which was applied three times a week. This practice was continued for the space of six months, at the end of which time Miss Charlotte———was so much better that she was allowed to join a party travelling on the continent. There she remained three years, improving in health; but whenever pain under the breast-bone, or on either side of the chest, came on, she was obliged to have recourse to the antidynous lotion. I not long ago saw her, on her return to England, looking as well as possible; being now free from pain, from cough, from purulent expectoration, from hectic flushes, from fever, and in excellent spirits. Still she is even now compelled to resort to her counter-irritant, the moment she experiences any pain under the sternum.

Of the heart or its coverings.

CASE LXXVIII.

The Author's own case of Pericarditis.

On Wednesday, the 19th July, 1837, I attended her majesty's levee, which was crowded to excess, so that at one time the heat of the apartments had become almost intolerable. Many, besides myself, were in a state of perpetual and profuse perspiration.

On reaching the door which leads to the middle room, and which, on that day, was closed so as to admit only fifteen or twenty persons at a time, I found myself ensconced in the recess of a neighbouring window, the lower sash of which was thrown up, perhaps as high as two feet. The wind whistled through this opening, and blew upon the left side of those who stood before the window, with their faces turned towards the door. I recollect that, among the group, there was that most amiable and young looking prelate, the late Bishop of Chichester, who held in his

hand an address from the clergy of his diocese, and who expressed how refreshing the coming-in breeze was to him. Not so with regard to myself, who felt chilled by the draught. An instinctive horror at the effects it might produce, made me gather up clothes, and press the flat hat closer than before to my left side, in order to protect it from the draught.

The perspiration however was checked, although our peculiar position continued but for a few minutes. On the evening of the same day I began to experience some rigours, and great restlessness, my breath became somewhat short, and I felt altogether very unwell. I retired to bed early; but in the night was unquiet and agitated, and I dreamt of a severe pain in the left side, just about the place on which the wind had blown in the morning. On waking I found that I had really a severe and deep-seated pain in the left side of the chest; and I got out of bed with some degree of anxiety. I had scarcely reached the dressing-room when the pain increased, and fainting supervened, which barely allowed me time to pull at the bell before I was compelled to stretch myself on a couch. Some stimulating drops were administered, which rallied me for a time, but only to be sensible of an increase of pain in the region of the heart, accompanied by great tumultuous action of that organ, producing great anxiety, and difficulty of breathing. I attempted to take a deep inspiration, but it threw me into still more violent pain. I felt my pulse, but it gave no comfort: it beat irregularly—it was alternately full and wiry—strong and feeble. Anxious to shake off apprehension, that I might not unnecessarily alarm my eldest daughter, the only one of the family then in the house,—I endeavoured to rise from the couch; but scarcely had I gained my feet than fainting came on again, and I sunk back in the horizontal posture, calling for some person to be sent to bleed me. Such is the constitution of this great town, that although the most pressing messages written as well as verbal, implying great danger, were sent in all directions near us, to all of which that waiter-like unmeaning reply “coming” was sent,—no one in reality came. Yet it was only nine o’clock in the morning, and the medical men, the apothecaries, and the chemists are in abundance in my neighbourhood. Still no one was coming. The case must soon have become desperate. I was perfectly collected notwithstanding the increasing agony of the deep seated pain, which extended from the front to the back, through the heart, and down the left arm. My only apprehension was, lest inflammation being once suffered to be established, either in the heart or the pericardium, bleeding might prove too tardy a measure to save me from the remote evil consequences of that disease. A young gentleman appeared at last, after the lapse of nearly three quarters of an hour from the first seizure, sent by my friend Mr. Tupper of Burlington street,—who, at the sight, I suppose, of my pale countenance, hesitated

to bleed me, and did it in great trepidation to the extent I indicated. The relief I experienced, after three cupfuls had been abstracted, is not to be described; the sensation was a luxury, and I wished I could have perpetuated it.

It stilled the tumultuous throbbings of the heart, it restored regularity to my breathing and to my pulse, it cleared away the oppressive cloud of fear and apprehension (heightened not a little at the sight of the only child then under my roof,) and altogether it made me look upon the youthful operator as my saviour. But the pain continued yet in its place; it was as if a sharp instrument had penetrated the heart. That organ had evidently been relieved from the oppressive currents of blood by the operation; but inflammation either of its structure or of its coverings, must have been in active progress, and might still extend to an unmanageable degree, unless speedily checked. I therefore saturated a white pocket handkerchief, doubled in the usual square manner, with a strong antidyne, and applied it to the region of the heart where the pain was situated. I did a similar thing with another handkerchief, and applied it simultaneously to the back, below the margin of the left shoulder blade. These I kept on until both surfaces became as it were red hot, and burned vigorously. In proportion as these effects were produced, the inward pain or stab-like feeling decreased, until at last it completely subsided and passed away. I dressed in an hour after, and drove out in the carriage to my usual avocations for the rest of the day, without the smallest inconvenience. The pain never returned. In the evening I found a slight blister on the chest and none on the back; and the next morning, on inspecting the third cup of blood taken from the arm, it appeared opalescent on its surface, and covered by a slender film of coagulated lymph.

No question but that all this tempest had had its origin in my exposure to the draught of wind from the fatal window, and the sudden check of perspiration which followed. I say fatal window with too much truth; for, of the others who had been like myself exposed to its draught, one there was who little thought that, on the fourth day from that occurrence, he would cease to be reckoned among the living. The fate of the amiable prelate mentioned in the early part of this narrative is well known. He returned on the day after the levee to his bishopric; was taken ill with an inflammatory cold, they say, in the night of Thursday; and expired on the succeeding Sunday in his episcopal palace. I have no hesitation in stating, that I attribute my safety not so much to the bleeding as to the counter-irritant I employed on the occasion, endowed with such instantaneous and energetic power.

I might easily multiply evidence to prove the immediate good effect produced by the antidynous counter-irritants, in cases of other forms of inflammation, especially of the abdomen; among

which the case of a physician to whom the profession is much indebted for many ingenious mechanical contrivances, as auxiliaries to medicine, might be cited. In his case a protracted and a serious attack of entero-mesenteritis was greatly relieved by the application of those powerful agents. But it would lead me to an endless task, were I to add to what I have already advanced in support of my statement of the excellent effects to be obtained from such counter-irritants, in all diseases in which the circulation is principally affected.

SECTION IV.

CASES OF DISEASES OF A MIXED CHARACTER, GOUT, &c.

In this section I propose to illustrate by means of four or five very striking examples, the power of the counter-irritants over certain diseases, which I have classed under one general denomination of "diseases of a mixed character," simply because I am not able to define their real nature with more precision. In this I am not singular; since every body will agree that while treating of gout, which is one of the diseases in question, or of the various forms of palsy, which is another of the diseases in question, the medical profession cannot advance, nor has it ever advanced, any thing beyond mere conjecture, respecting the true origin or cause of those maladies; or indeed stated with distinctiveness in what they consist. Wishing then to avoid every species of error into which I should have myself fallen, as well as have led my readers, had I attempted to specify the real character of gout or palsy, by classing either of them under a more distinct head, (as I have hitherto done with regard to those other diseases of which an illustrative account has been given in this volume,) I have adopted the "*mezzo-termine*" at the head of this section, to signify that the complaints therein treated are of a nature not easily defined,

Let us look to gout for example, and see whether or not what is here advanced on general grounds is not truly and immediately applicable to that particular complaint. Who can say that gout is essentially a disorder of the nervous system, or of the muscular or of the tendinous tissues, or in fine of the system of circulation? In that disease we have pain, and a very acute one; but is that a sufficient reason for concluding that the disorder has its origin in the nerves—the only *sentient* organs in the body? There is also enlargement of the parts, thickening of the muscles, stiffening

of them likewise, and inability to move them. Are these reasons enough for imagining that in the muscular system resides the true seat of gout? Again, we often notice very considerable and always some inflammation in the part affected by gout, great redness, throbbing, and increased heat; all which phenomena belong to disturbed and increased circulation. But are these good and substantial grounds for considering gout as a disease of the circulating system? Nay, we occasionally witness a sudden transference of the acute suffering of gout, with its concomitant signs of inflammation and pain, from its more usual seat, the extremities, to some important internal organ. Is such a phenomenon, which in ordinary circumstances we should look upon as a phenomenon of circulation, to be considered as further marking the correctness of those who are disposed to view gout as a disease of that function? We should not reason philosophically were we to adopt any such conclusion; for if, as Mr. Swan in his able work on diseases of the nerves has observed, pain be conveyed from one place to another, entirely by the nerves, and not at all through any other medium—the mere sudden leaps which *erratic* gout-pain often takes, will not necessarily imply any agency of the circulating system. With respect to the latter observation of Mr. Swan, some of my readers, who may have smarted under this troublesome disorder, will be inclined to ask, if the pain in the original seat of the gout, and the pain manifested in the new seat to which gout may have been suddenly transferred, are to be assumed as indications of suffering in the *nerves* of those respective parts, why is no pain experienced by the patient during the transference of the disease from one seat to the other, along the course of the nerves which keep the two seats in communication with each other?

Would not this total absence of pain in the intermediate course, my readers might further enquire, denote rather, that the transference of the disorder has been effected through some other channel than that of the nerves? and that the channel in question is probably the circulation? The phenomenon of pain shifting suddenly from one place to another, is one which we have not yet made out. “It would be interesting,” remarks the same respectable authority just mentioned, “to know by what course pain is conveyed from one part to another; but this investigation is attended with considerable difficulty.” And so is the whole question of gout, which remains as much unsettled now, as it was in the times of Sydenham, one of its greatest martyrs—and as it was long before him. In classing, therefore, my examples of gout under the head of “Diseases of a mixed character,” I avoid both Scylla and Charybdis, and try to steer clear in mid-channel.

In reference to paralytic affections, I admit that the same degree of indecision as to their parental source, does not exist.—

Pure, genuine palsy is unquestionably a disorder, the true nature of which modern physiologists and pathologists appear to have made out almost to demonstration. But it is not so with regard to such paralytic affections as are here illustrated by examples of recovery through the action of counter-irritants, and which are so mixed up with other derangements of the constitution, that it is difficult to discern which is the parent disease and which the offspring. Under these circumstances, I thought I could not do better than to associate such affections, with gout, under one denomination of "diseases of a mixed character;" and I hope that what I have done for the sake of convenience, will not be imputed to me as a mark either of ignorance of what is at present known on the subject, or of presumption in wishing to introduce new distinctions in the methodical arrangement of diseases.

The first form of disease under the present head, which I shall illustrate by three examples, is suppressed gout, or, as it has also been called, *repercuted* or *metastatic* gout—according as it has, or has not, made its appearance in a part of the body different from the one in which it originally appeared, and which it has abruptly left. This is unquestionably the most dangerous form of gouty disease; and it is so because, when the malady has suddenly deserted its post, none can predicate in what other more important part of the human frame it may not take up its quarters, either immediately, or at no distant period. The parts principally liable to such visitations, under the circumstances here alluded to, are the heart, the stomach, and the head; of each of which visitations I shall here give a single example to show, first, their extreme danger, and secondly, the immense assistance to be derived in such cases from a proper use of the strong antidynous lotion to meet that danger.

1.—*Suppressed or Repercuted Gout.*

AFFECTING THE HEART.

CASE LXXIX.

On the 31st of May, 1831, I was hastily fetched away from home at an early hour in the morning. by one of the servants of Lord —, living not far from my house, and who was said to be dying. On entering the drawing-room, I beheld the patient reclining on the back of a large arm-chair, apparently in a lifeless state, his right foot, covered by sundry flannel wrappers, resting on a stool before him. On approaching him to lay hold of his hand, I could hardly distinguish the act of respiration. The face was of a livid hue, and the heaving of the chest took place at singularly large intervals. No pulse was found at the wrist. I applied my ear to the region of the heart, but no distinct pulsa-

tion could be made out. That organ was in action still ; yet its movements more resembled a tremour or a fluttering, than any distinct vibration: I called for wine and brandy and hot water instantly, while I stripped the wrappers off the foot. On the latter being uncovered, the whole secret of this awful state of the patient was made apparent. Lord —— had, for some days, been suffering from an attack of gout in that foot, to which disease he was frequently subject. On that morning particularly he had complained to his valet that the part was excessively painful and inflamed ; and he had, in consequence, repeated the dose of colchicum, which his lordship, of his own accord, used to prescribe for himself in these attacks ; for he had seldom consulted any medical man for the complaint. Thus far the servants knew. One of them also stated, that as he came into the room with some message, he had found his lordship in the state I then saw him ; in consequence of which he had fetched me to him.

How long their master had been in that condition they could not tell ; but it could not have been long ; for one of them had had occasion to enter the room half an hour before, and his lordship was then engaged in writing some letters, with his foot placed on the stool. That foot appeared now cold, of a bluish livid tint, the surface of the instep flaccid and rugose, as if the skin had collapsed, after having been extensively stretched, and no symptom of active disease was upon it. While listening to this statement, I was engaged all the time in affording succour to our patient, who to all appearance, seemed insensible to what was going on around him. The necessary articles being brought, I forced down the throat a large portion of a tumbler-full of a mixture of wine and brandy, made hot with boiling water ; at the same time, flannels, burning hot, and rapid frictions, were applied to the foot, while the antidynous lotion was sent for. The first portion of the stimulants was presently rejected from the stomach, and a like quantity poured down into it, equally warm. The counter-irritant arrived, and it was put on the whole of the instep, by means of a very thick compass, which was bound tight round the foot by a handkerchief. Again the stomach rejected the brandy and wine, and again I reiterated the dose. Three more minutes elapsed, and the pulse rose under my fingers. A fourth time the stimulants were rejected, and a fourth time repeated, and now reaction had so far taken place, as to induce Lord —— to exclaim that his foot was burning. Finding him sensible to what was then going on, I enquired how he felt, and whether he had been aware of the state he had just emerged from. His reply was, that being in the act of leaning forward to write a letter, and while stooping to pick up his pocket-handkerchief, a sudden pain had seized him in the heart, the gouty foot ceasing at the same time to pain him, and that he felt as if he were

dying and fell back in his chair; in which position he remained until his servant first, and afterwards all of us together, had entered the room; of all of which he was quite aware, though he had no power, by tokens, words, or movements, to signify the same. He now complained bitterly of the sensation in the foot, and that he could not bear it any longer. It was worse than gout. I explained the nature and the intention of the application, and requested it might be suffered to remain until I found the pulse to my satisfaction. This was not long in being the case. The arterial movements at the wrist became distinct, strong, and regular; general excitation of the system ensued, the face regained its natural colour, the skin acquired throughout a considerable degree of heat, and lastly, when the compress was removed, the foot was found swollen, red, hot, throbbing, and in the condition in which it had been early in the morning, before the patient had taken his doses of colchicum. All these events and operations occupied half an hour, and I had the satisfaction, at the end of that time, of leaving my patient in perfect safety, with his morbid companion, the gout, on which he was now almost inclined to look with feelings of friendship. What measure of assistance is to be ascribed to the counter-irritant in bringing back gout to its old quarters, and in arresting the ebbing of life in a patient so situated, at the age of seventy-nine years, I leave my readers to determine. The lesson in reference to colchicum drinking, as a relief from gout, was not lost on his lordship, and well it has been for him that he profited by it; for in the seven years that have elapsed since, instead of a fit of the gout every six months, as was the case before, Lord — has had but five attacks altogether, all of which he has allowed me to manage. Few persons at the age of eighty-six years, can enjoy easier health than his lordship, or boast as he may of the keen retention of some of the best and most striking faculties of the intellect.

AFFECTING THE STOMACH.

CASE LXXX.

A gentleman liable to the gout, both through inheritance and an irregular mode of living, who was in the habit of taking Wilson's mixture during the paroxysms of pain, and seldom paid much attention to the rules of diet laid down by his medical friends, after a severe attack of the disease in both wrists, which had continued some days, was suddenly seized, on the 15th of September, 1830, with a spasm at the pit of the stomach, which lasted, by intervals, for the space of three hours, and during which the wrists ceased to give him pain. A friend who happened to be present, and who had been a patient of mine, in-

stantly sent for me ; but I could not reach the house before the lapse of time last mentioned. The sufferings of the patient seemed very great, and to require immediate assistance. I prescribed a strong mixture of volatile aromatic ammonia, with tincture of senna and rhubarb, and twenty grains of carbonate of soda. The relatives present were urgent for the addition of some laudanum, but I explained the danger of such a proceeding, under the circumstances of the case. In ten minutes there seemed to be an abatement of the spasmodic action in the stomach. No change, however, had taken place in the appearance of the wrists, and as long as that was the case, I relied but little on the permanency of the relief obtained in the stomach. I called a second time in about two hours. The effect of the mixture had nearly subsided, and the pain at the pit of the stomach was returning. Hot fomentations, with strong mustard water, had been applied in the meanwhile, by my directions, at the wrists, but they had hardly produced any reaction. As the patient was a very nervous subject, and easily alarmed, the continuation, and, indeed, the frequent return, of this vicarious gout in his stomach began to excite apprehension, in himself as well as in his relations ; which determined me on having recourse to something more energetic, for the restoration of gout to its former quarters.

The antidyne was therefore proposed, its action explained, and its effect tried on both wrists. Owing to the previous application of mustard water, the parts were almost immediately acted upon by the antidynous lotion, and an almost complete reaction took place in consequence—the gout retiring to the wrists, and the stomach becoming at the same time perfectly free from spasm. The wrists were blistered, and continued sore for some days ; but the gouty pain ceased long before they had healed. It is a curious fact that this patient, whom I have often seen since in society, and two or three times also professionally, has never had another genuine and full attack of gout ; but he is subject, instead, to periodical returns of a deep-seated wearing pain near the region of the pylorus, for which I have recommended the application of a small compress, saturated with the old lotion, whereby he invariably obtains relief from his suffering.

AFFECTING THE HEAD AND THE ŒSOPHAGUS.

CASE LXXXI.

John M—, Esq., aged about fifty-eight years, is subject to atonic gout, some of which he almost always carries about with him in his knees and his ankles. His digestion is much impaired ; and unfortunately the patient attends but indifferently to it. Occasionally there is an almost entire failure of power in the limbs. There are small chalky deposits in the fingers, and the general

symptoms of dyspepsia, with nervous depression, are at times very distressing. He had been under the care of many eminent physicians, among whom were Doctor Chambers and Doctor James Johnson; but he admitted that he seldom did justice to their directions. His object in applying to me on the 30th of June, 1837, was to ascertain to which of the Spas in Germany he might proceed for the cure of his complaint. After a mature consideration of his case, I recommended Wisbaden, and gave him the necessary directions for that purpose. As he, however, could not start immediately, and was at the same time suffering under a rather severe attack of his stomach symptoms, in consequence of some great dinners and a certain number of glasses of Champagne; and as there was also a white, puffy, gouty swelling in the right knee; Mr. — requested me to prescribe for him. I did so; and strictly defined his diet. On the morning of the following day I was sent for in great haste to the neighbourhood of Belgrave square to see him, and the message bespoke alarm on the part of the relations of the patient. I found him scarcely able to speak, and under great consternation. A feeling of slight strangulation, of which he had complained the day before, he now stated to be excessive and insupportable; and yet he breathed with ease, and naturally. There was also a degree of corresponding pain at the pit of the stomach, and the head felt full, heavy, and throbbing. On examining the knee, it was found paler than usual, flabby, and not tender to the touch, unless the joint was squeezed very hard with both hands. The patient's anxiety was all about the throat. He either could or would not swallow for fear of suffocation; and he was inclined to think that he must have caught cold after returning from a late dinner on the preceding night. But the disorder was manifestly far different from a sore throat. It was a spasmodic contraction of the œsophagus, from metastatic gout; and the symptoms of head affection were also connected with that transference of the disease from the knees. On sending for me that morning, the patient, judging from his own feelings in the throat and head, expected that I would order bleeding, or at least leeches to the part; instead of which I applied an antidyne of moderate strength, which I had carried with me when sent for under alarm. In two minutes after its application to the throat, in the presence of his lady, the patient became able to swallow a glass of water with ease, and stated that he was quite well. Not liking to trust to this sudden amendment, I proceeded to apply the same counter-irritant, on a piece of flannel, to the instep of the right foot, which became red in a very few minutes. The flannel was left in its place through the day. At night I found my patient much better. The foot was not only inflamed, but a large blister had formed, containing at least half a pint of fluid, retained by the

cuticle, which was as yet unbroken. From this time forward the case became one of ordinary derangement of the biliary system, in which, indeed, the attack of straggling or erratic gout had originated; and it was treated accordingly. The blister discharged its fluids two days afterwards, and was kept in action as an open sore for some days, in hopes that it might stand in lieu of a more active fit of the gout, of which the patient's unhinged constitution was incapable—and thus keep off, as it actually did, all returns of the more formidable symptoms in the throat and head.

2.—*Genuine Gout.*

The cases of genuine gout which I have treated in the course of the last nine years, by means of the external application of the antidynous counter-irritants, are both numerous and striking; but to specify them, much as they resemble one another, and familiar as the disease in its ordinary form must be to almost every one, would involve an unnecessary increase of the matter of this volume. I have only to state, as a novel feature in the treatment I adopt—which I call the external treatment of gout, in contradistinction to that which consists in giving colchicum and other internal remedies—that on the appearance of the first blush on the toes, or other part attacked with gout, I apply a counter-irritant on the place, so as to immediately bring to a crisis the inflammatory action in which resides the sanative effect of gout; and I convert a series of capricious, uncertain, and unsteady pains, which left to themselves last several days, into an ordinary form of local disease, easily managed, and specifically under our control; performing most completely the vicarious office of gout in promoting constitutional health. I seldom, if ever, have recourse to colchicum. I prefer other safer sedatives, and I look to a judicious, proper, and effective clearance of the digestive organs, for a successful termination of the attack in a much shorter time than under any other treatment. Another great feature of the external treatment is, that in the majority of the patients who have submitted to it, the attacks of genuine gout have been of much rarer occurrence after the first recovery.

3.—*Paralytic Debility.*

CASE LXXXII.

Paralytic affection of the left arm.

The late M. Laurière, an eminent jeweller, living in St. James's street, having been labouring for some time under a paralytic affection of the left arm, subsequently to a more regular attack of palsy, was placed under my care at the desire of a benevolent foreign nobleman now no more, on the 27th of January, 1831.

I continued to see him daily for a week, and afterwards from time to time until his complaint appeared to be mending, notwithstanding all the very unpromising symptoms which accompanied his case. His advanced age, and the serious nature of the attack he had experienced in the head, seemed to preclude all hope of a recovery. Still as the lifeless condition of his left arm was an annoyance as well as an inconvenience to him, I subjected it to friction with an antidynous lotion; while at the same time I applied that counter-irritant to the spine between the shoulders. I was very soon after gratified at the result of this method of rousing the energies of the upper extremity; which recovered its tone and faculty so far that M. Laurière could raise it without helping it by means of the other hand, as he had always been obliged to do before.

Several interesting cases follow, reported by our author, of a worse kind, perfectly cured by the antidyne. C.

SECTION V.

CASES OF ACCIDENTS; MECHANICAL, CUTANEOUS, AND OTHER MORBID DERANGEMENTS.

1.—*Violent Sprains, Blows, and Falls.*

Nothing is more troublesome than what is termed “a sprain,” although the accident be in general looked upon as insignificant. How many people have been confined to their couch for days and weeks together, from a mere sprain of the foot or ankle!—How many more have been obliged to tie up their arm, or bind up their wrists, from a sprain of the shoulder, or a sprain of the hand! Leeches, evaporating lotions, fomentations, bandaging, patience, and time—time long and precious—these are the usual means which surgery employs to overcome the ill effects of a sprain. Now I will not scruple to assert that if the antidynous lotion, of a strength suitable to the exigency of the case, and to the individual susceptibility of the skin of the patient, be had recourse to *immediately after* a sprain has taken place, no matter how violent, the recovery in almost every instance will be immediate; and neither leeches, bleeding, nor confinement will be required. Nay—I can state further, that in a large number of instances, in which a sprain had existed for some days, and seemed to advance but little towards recovery under the ordinary modes of treatment, even the tardy application of the lotion has materially hastened that desirable event.

What is here affirmed respecting sprains applies with equal truth to the ill effects resulting from blows or falls, where there is only contusion, without either wounds or fractures. A violent blow, which when left to itself produces, in half an hour, a considerable puffing or swelling of the part, and discolouration of the skin, will be followed by no such results, if the antidyne be immediately applied to the part. No person should be without it; the greatest suffering may be prevented by its use.

CASE LXXXVI.

Sprained wrist.

On the 19th of November, 1830, the late Sir Robert Russel, Bart. M. P., of Chequers, in the county of Bucks, whom I had often had occasion to attend professionally, came to my house with his right arm in a sling. His hand was much swollen; the wrist, tender and painful to the touch, was about twice its natural size; and above it, the muscles were also sore and somewhat swollen. By the recent marks around the wrist, I perceived that several leeches had been applied, over which he was then wearing a thick compress with some camphorated liniment. The cause of all this apparent mischief, he informed me, was a violent sprain of the wrist, occasioned by attempting to catch with one hand a large heavy folio volume while it was in the act of falling off the table. The condition of the parts here described had lasted three days, and the patient was getting fidgety at the little prospect he saw before him of a speedy recovery; the more so as in the then excited state of the House of Commons, when a change of ministry was expected in three or four days, he was particularly anxious to be in his place. I recommended, therefore, and applied immediately, the antidynous embrocation, of an ordinary strength. Being impatient of additional pain, he at first refused to allow the application to remain on more than two or three minutes; but having at last consented to bear it for a short time longer, tightly bound round the wrist, the smarting gradually diminished, and he took his leave with the wrist quite easy. On the following day I saw him at his chambers in Stone Buildings, with the arm out of the sling, and declaring he was quite well.

CASE LXXXVII.

Sprained shoulder.

A lady, residing in the Royal Mint, somewhat advanced in years, sprained her shoulder in October, 1833, by falling in the dark over a piece of furniture which had been incautiously left in the middle of a room. The parts swelled much in the course

of the night, and became very painful. The uneasiness extended down to the elbow, and also in the direction of the muscles of the breast. I saw her in the morning; she could not then raise her arm to a perfectly horizontal position, and when it was forced into that state, much pain was produced. I applied at once the antidyne for a few minutes; when considerable smarting and rubefaction followed, with great relief of the external pain and greater facility of movement. The application being repeated for three days successively with proportionate benefit, the part at the end of that time had recovered its natural tone and condition.

CASE LXXXIX.

Another example of severe sprain of the instep.

The valet of Lord Nugent, in consequence of some accident of which I have omitted to make a memorandum, sustained a very severe sprain of one of his insteps, which disabled him from doing his usual duty, and compelled him to hop instead of walking, as he was perfectly incapable of putting the foot to the ground, so great was the pain he suffered in that part. Having asked my advice on the 27th of November, 1836, several days after the accident, while I was on a professional visit at the house, I examined the foot, which was hot to the touch, very much swollen, very tender, and evidently in a state of sub-acute inflammation. As he had already used every ordinary means in such cases recommended, I instructed him how to apply the antidynous lotion, of which I gave him the prescription, and desired him to repeat it during three or four successive days if necessary. He did so, and at the end of the fourth day he reported himself quite well.

The preceding cases will, I think, be deemed quite sufficient, without multiplying them unnecessarily, to prove the efficacy of an instantaneous *revulsant* (rather than a counter-irritant,) of the nature of those I recommended, in dispersing more effectually, and unquestionably much more rapidly, than by any other means, the ill effects of the local injuries therein detailed.

6.—*Cutaneous Pustular Diseases.*

The success which I was not long in obtaining in some eruptive diseases of the skin already mentioned from the use of antidynous counter-irritants, when once I had become properly acquainted with their power, induced me to employ them also in the most inveterate cases of figured ringworm of the scalp and other parts. It is notorious that this disease has been, and is still, looked upon as an opprobrium to the medical practitioner, as well as to the unfortunate patient. The ringworm, when properly studied, presents several curious features and anomalies. Hitherto no treat-

ment has been recommended for it, the rationale of which can be said to rest on sound physiological principles. All remedies proposed have been empirical: and as such they have as often failed as they have succeeded. There is scarcely a vegetable, a mineral, or an animal substance, that has not been recommended as an external remedy for the disease in question; and in fact, no sooner is a new substance introduced into the *materia medica*, than the physician or surgeon who is called upon to remove so noxious a disorder as the ringworm, instantly presses it into his service as an external application. Thus the iodide of sulphur has, within the last year or two, been recommended and employed for that purpose; as has been also the creosote. But the result has not been more encouraging than when other external remedial agents have been resorted to. Among the latter, blisters having been deemed beneficial by many practitioners, it was natural that I should try to combat the disorder in question, by means of preparations which I knew to act on the skin as vesicants. Accordingly, in several cases of ringworm in children which fell under my notice, whether of the *aggregated* form, or of the *circinnated* or figured form, I betook myself to the use of the antidynous lotion of suitable strength, and have had ample reason to be satisfied with the result. Several cases are reported by the author.

The attentive perusal of the present work will, I have every reason to believe, induce the reader to agree with me in deducing from the several propositions enunciated in the first part of this volume, and the hundred facts detailed in the second, the following

CONCLUSIONS.

1st. That there exists a species of external treatment, by which a great many very important disorders of the human frame hitherto considered as incurable, or difficult of cure, may be speedily and successfully cured without having recourse to internal remedies.

2d. That although, from time immemorial, several agents of known power have been and are still employed in the external treatment of disease; nevertheless, the antidynous lotion described and recommended in the present volume has never before been offered to the public, although they possess much greater energy for carrying on and expediting that treatment.

3d. That even where the diseases are of a nature to require the use of internal remedies, the same antidynous preparations, externally used, will be found to be a most powerful auxiliary in hastening and securing the good effect of those remedies.

4th. That in several instances, by the rapid and almost instan-

taneous manner in which they act, they have been the means of saving life from imminent danger.

5th. That the principle on which all such external agents are supposed to act in the cure or alleviation of human maladies, has been termed COUNTER-IRRITATION; but that, in adopting such term, many of the phenomena which accompany their use, are still left unexplained.

6th and lastly. That by promoting a more general adoption of a counter-irritating or external treatment of disease, and thereby saving the constitution of patients from the pernicious effect of a polypharmacous treatment, a great service would be rendered to the public, and an important era established in the annals of practical medicine.

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